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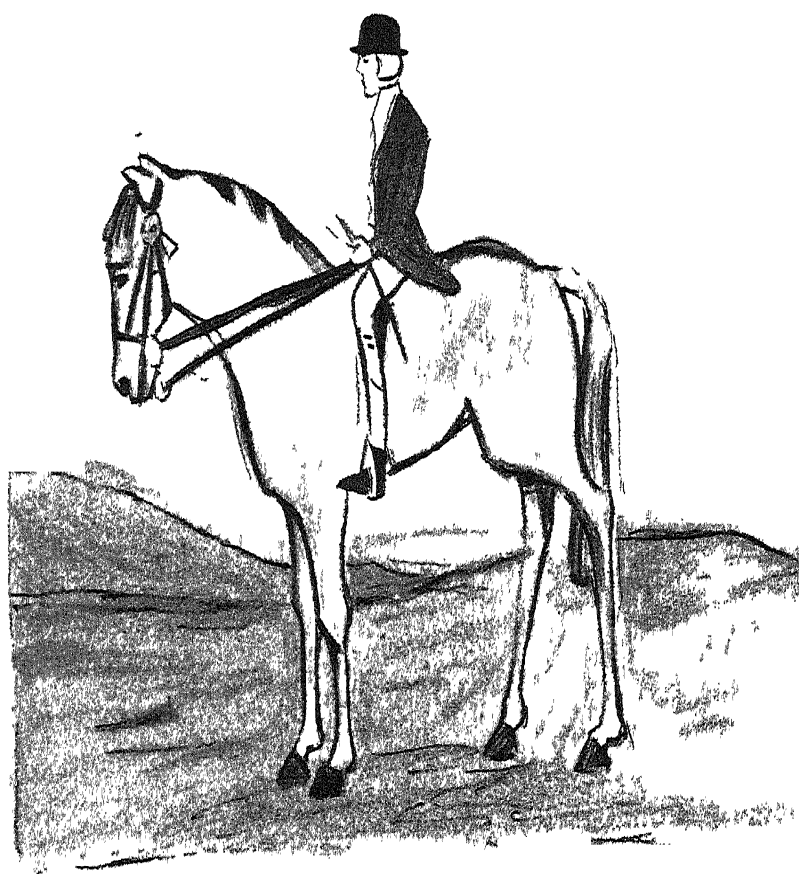
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HORSEMANSHIP

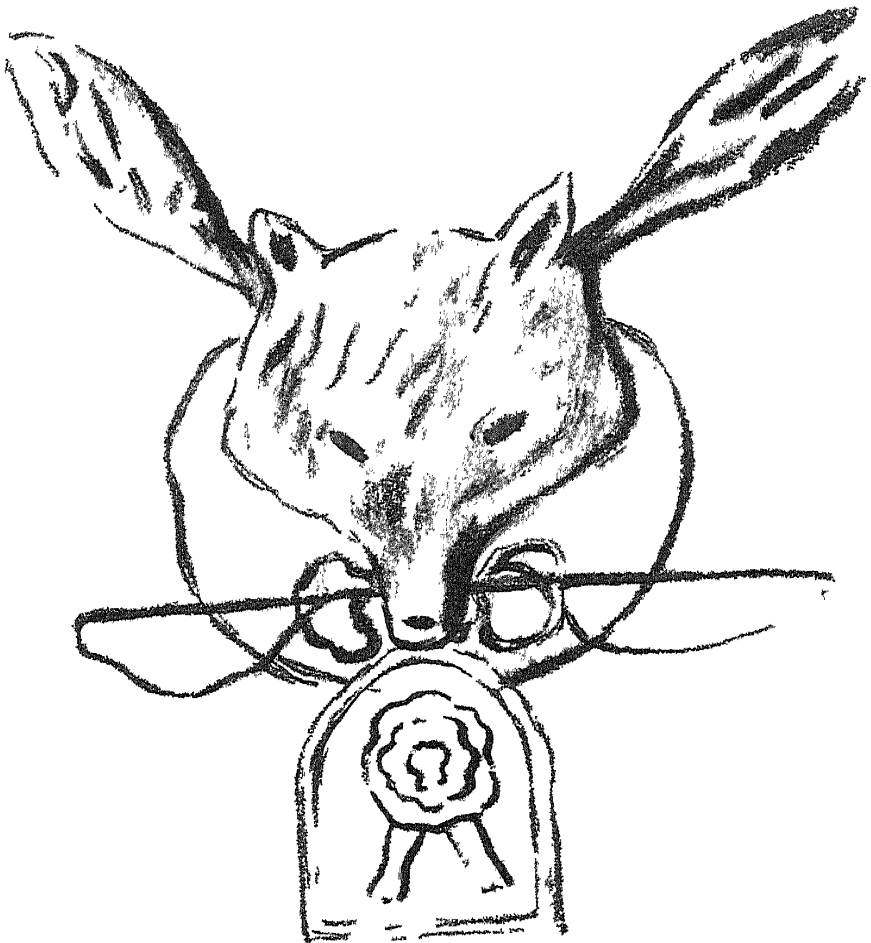
35 drawings and colour plates
Horsemanship! Jumping! Showing!
Hunting! etc.

In two parts, for
PART I — beginners
" II — more experienced



AS IT IS TO-DAY

Sarah Bowes-Lyon



Horsemanship as it is today "is a remarkable production for a lady of tender years. In one of her earlier remarks, in relation to the fitness for heaven of man and horse, one can perceive the driving force of her effort, viz. the true love of the Horse. One can but admire the accuracy with which she deals with the various details of Horsemanship, and also with the care of the horse. Although she cannot compete with a Hemming or a Munnings, we see some graphic pictures in the art of riding, and in the picture of "the Horse and his parts," it is very pleasing to see that she shows the shoulder rather straight not loaded. The young writer covers a large field in connection with the horse and his management, as well as the correct form of Equestrianism, and finally, I think her hints and advice should be of valuable help to the young aspirants who wish to excel in Horsemanship.

Stretton's Knight

Redbourn House

Redbourn

Herts

May 20th

Dear Mr Dent,

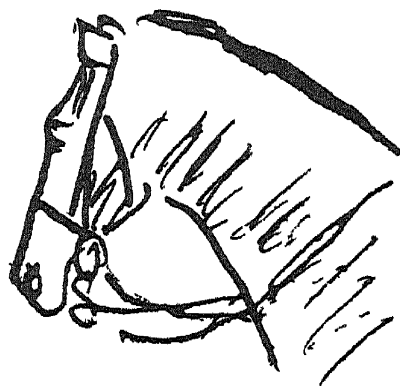
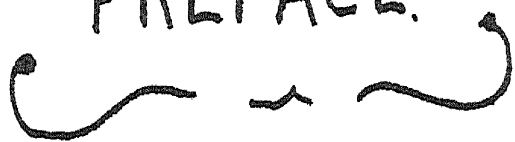
I am writing to thank you for so kindly saying that you will publish my book. I am so glad that you liked reading it and hope that you are as interested in horses as I am. I am sorry to think that I am now at school and have so very little time for writing, but I hope to do some more in the holidays. I like being at school very much though it is a pity that I am not able to ride my pony or go to any horse shows in the term.

With love and many thanks

from

Sarah

PREFACE.



DEAR READERS:

Before you read this little book I would like you to think, that, as well as for your own, it is also for your pony's, sake. When we look back, to those days when we first rode, we realise how very patient and gentle those ponies we were taught on were. We thought different then, and now, as I expect some of you experienced ones do, repent those times, when scoldings from our tongues would fall on those innocent twitching ears belonging to those now beloved animals to whom we owe all our gratitude for horsemanship. Well one remembers, the clear gaze of the brown eyes, the pricked ears on the head,—held high, and the impatient twitch of the tail, of those noble steeds that bore us so gallantly at our first meet. It is those true hearted animals that teach us our first lessons,—no master of horsemanship can ever teach as some of our early mounts taught us. Think of some of those miserable, unkept, cart horses, in the streets. The thin, meagre, rain sodden coat, through which protrude the bones, but, the soft white muzzle, and the clear dreamy eyes are still the same as when in better, bygone days.

The faithful beast is still waiting patiently,
— with the traffic roaring past him, —
for his master, — He comes, the cruel, rough
voice is heard as the brutal, merciless lash
falls with stinging force, — the frame of
the horse quivers all over, but now the soft
ears are laid back and a glint of scorn
creeps into the mild eyes. Through all
unkindness that animal is still patient,
and still that old spark of fire comes
back to those eyes — still that weary
frame unheeds those brutal blows... ..

Therefore let us raise our glasses and
drink to the long life and prosperity
of..... "The Horse"!

"ALL HORSES ARE FIT FOR
HEAVEN,
BUT FEW MEN."

S. Bours-lyon

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+ Pen and ink.

*

I DEDICATE THIS BOOK
To: My mother and father and
Miss Clay, — Jaffie, and Devon,
to whom I owe all my gratitude
for ~~the~~ know ledge of all that
is written in the following pages
of this book. And, also, of all the
readers who have been bored with
it to the one who never showed
resentment.

"A thing worth
doing.
Is worth doing
well!"

Sarah Bowes-Lyon

Begun at the age of twelve at
Redbourn House

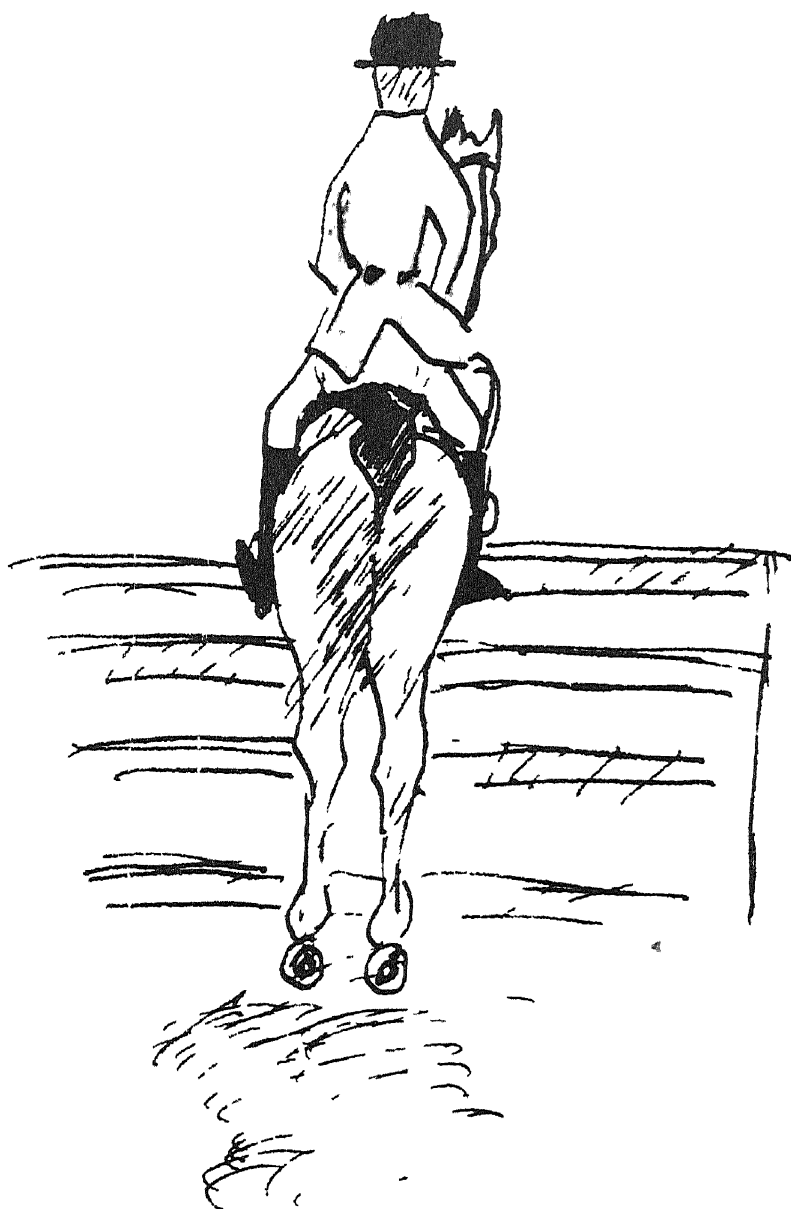
PART 1.

for beginners .

Seat, Kit, Hands, Paces Saddling, Mounting etc

CHAPTER I

"Riding Kit"



RIDING KIT

5

Hat--- a soft felt hat is best, for usual riding and hacking purposes though for hunting and jumping it is safer to wear a bowler or some hard hat. with a piece of elastic at the back to hold it on by.



Stock--- One only needs a stock for hunting really and one can either have a tie or not at all as it is not a great necessity.



Coat--- For the winter, and hunting one of course wants a pretty thick coat to keep out all the cold, and it should have a slit at the back.



Breeches--- Breeches are best made from measurements, and they should fit well round the hips and legs, with not too much sag in the back, and Jodhpurs should fit closely all down the legs. (Note) (Both breeches and Jodhpurs wear better if with a strip of leather inside the knee)



Leggings--- Leggings must be fitted well, or they are both untidy and uncomfortable. the plain brown leather kind, or white padded ones are best, and though top boots are not so suitable they are quite useful for hunting.



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Gloves ---

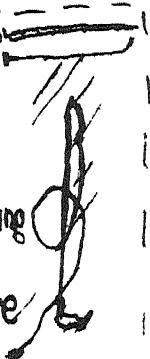
'Hunt

Cream coloured string gloves are the most useful for all times, though the 'Holdness' have the best kind for hunting, as they are made with warm stuff, and some other specially for holding reins with.



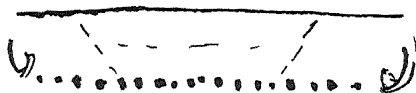
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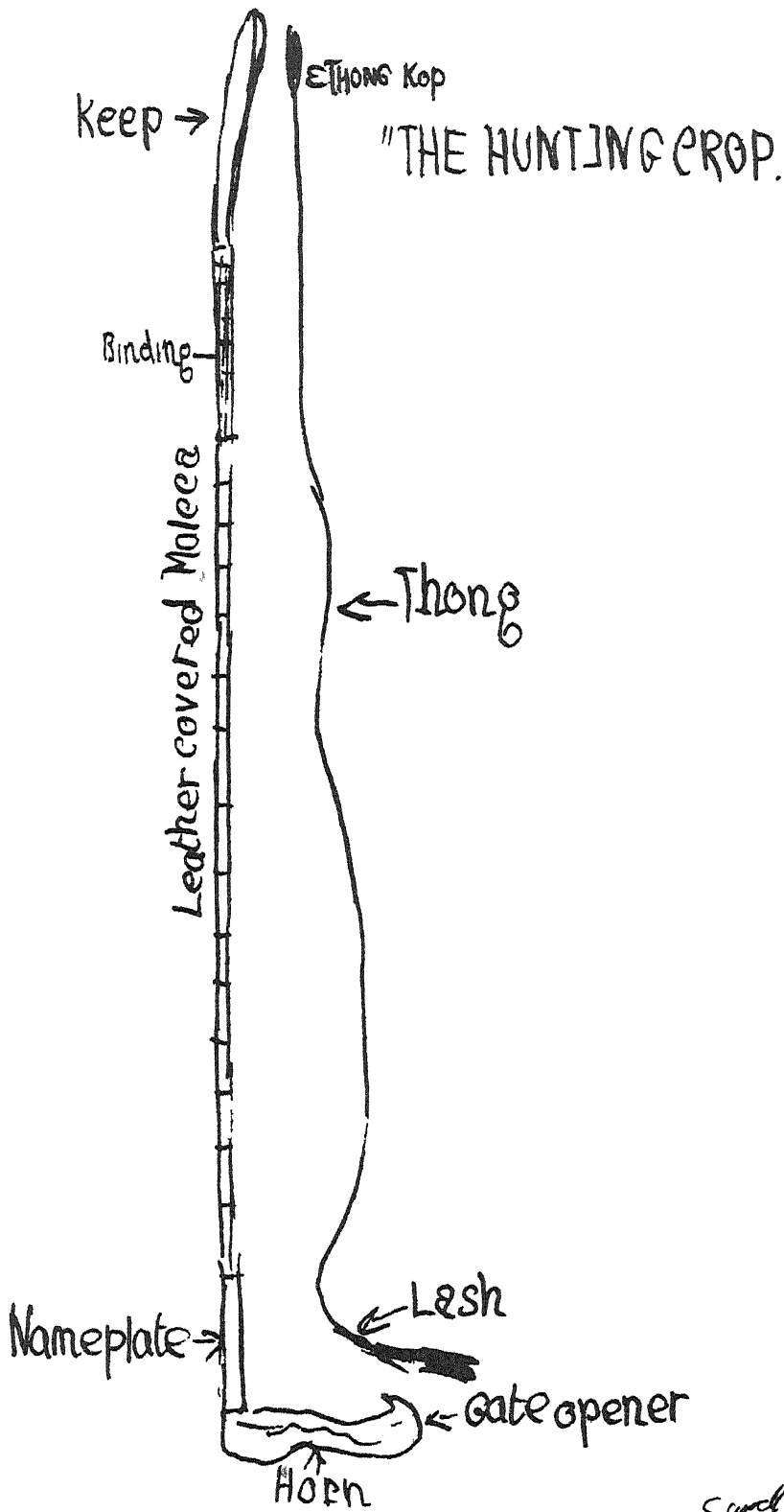
A crop is generally only used for hunting and as one should not take off the 'thong' to use it with only the keep, it is much better and more useful to have a stick or Malacca cane both for riding and showing as it is not the right thing to ride with anything but a stick, also, cutting whips are only used by jockeys.



Spurs ---

there are so many morals and stories about people using spurs that I think we will quote these well known lines --
 "Spurs should be worn by no one except one man in a hundred and then he should never use them"!!..





Sand Bawer

CHAPTER II

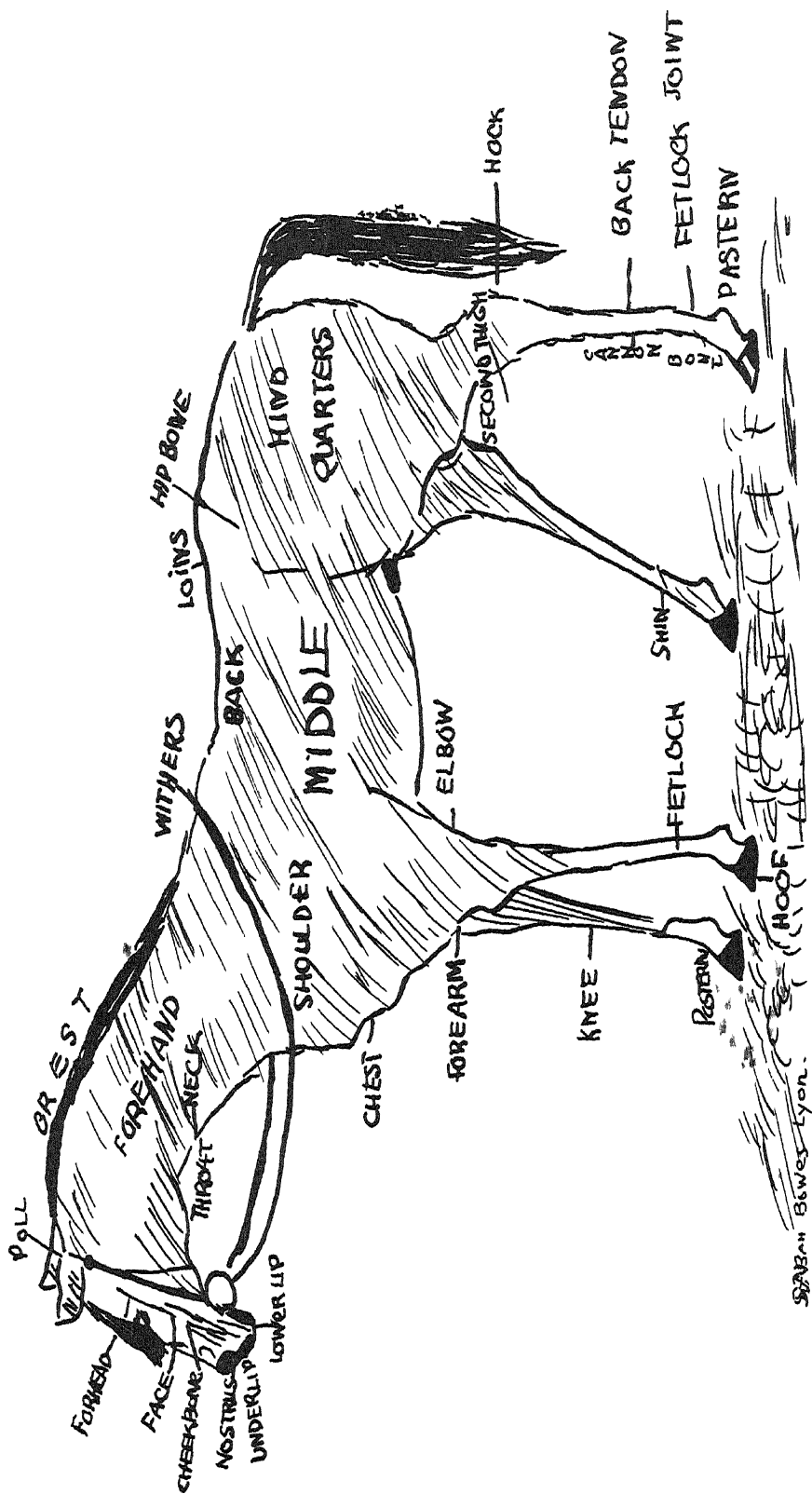
"The points of a horse"

— — — — —



THE POINTS OF A HORSE.

10



THE POINTS OF YOUR PONY

11

This chapter is not only for people who don't know the points of the horse but also for people who do know, as one can never stop learning all the different names, in fact one learns them at each stage, and so on, till one time they come in very useful, not counting it as being most interesting. For instance, say, if your father was going to give you a pony, he would very likely say "first, you must learn the names of a pony's points, do you know them?" - - - What would happen if you didn't? - Well, here they are for you to try and fix in your memory -

POLL... is just between the two ears if you place your hand there you will feel a little hump,

FOREHEAD... a little bit above the eyes, - just the same as our own!

FACE... is just below the eyes.

CHEEK BONE^{eye}... is on the side of the face it feels like a thin little ledge if you run your hand down it.

NOSTRILS... are a very delicate part of a pony as of course it is where he breathes through exactly the same as our noses' and we don't like anyone pinching them either, do we? Well then, never do a thing to your pony that you wouldn't like yourself..

UNDERLIP... is just below the nostrils, and the

LOWER LIP... just below that, then we have to look up a bit, to find the —

THROAT.. that is very easy, I expect you to know that!

NECK... is a little below the 'Throat.' Now we have got to go right up to the top and begin again at the —

CREST.. which goes all along the top of his mane. And below him, a word you should know, "which side is the?" —

FOREHAND. "on your left when mounted," its very easy to forget! Now for the —

WITHERS. . . you can see them just in front of the saddle when mounted, just like a jump.

the BACK.... is where we sit. the next point is very important _____

LOINS... the most delicate part of a horse or pony, so if a wet day at a meet, etc, always cover him up there

HIP BONE... is just below the "Loins" there is hardly need to ask if you know where the _____

HINDQUARTERS --- are? I will leave that to you!

SECOND THIGH .. is just above the _____

HOCK⁴¹ .. you have all heard of that word? the _____

BACK TENDON... is just behind and the

CANNON BONE.... just in front

CHEST. . below the _____

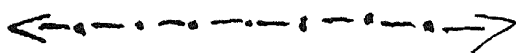
SHOULDER,.. the _____

FORARM .. in front of the _____

ELBOW.. . the _____

KNEE above the _____

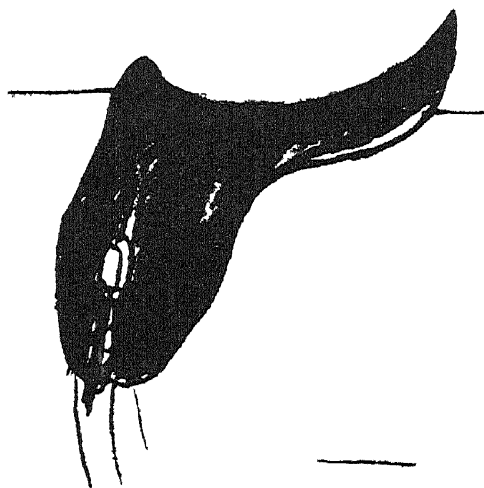
PASTER⁴²N,.. the pastern above the hoof, and the shank is by itself.... you'll have to learn these off by heart! the picture will help you and don't forget them as soon as you have them learnt.....!



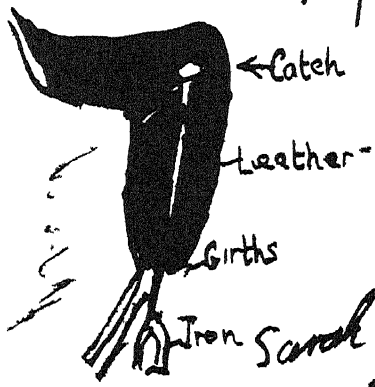
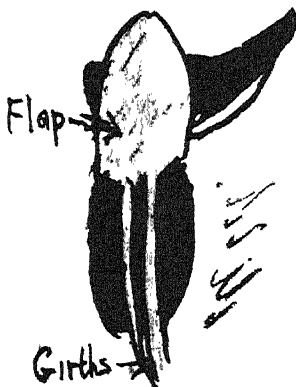
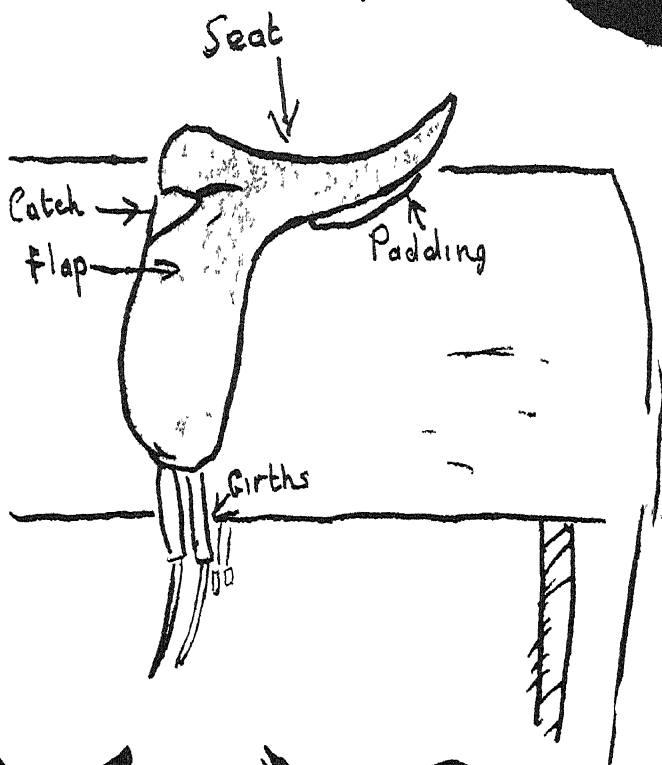
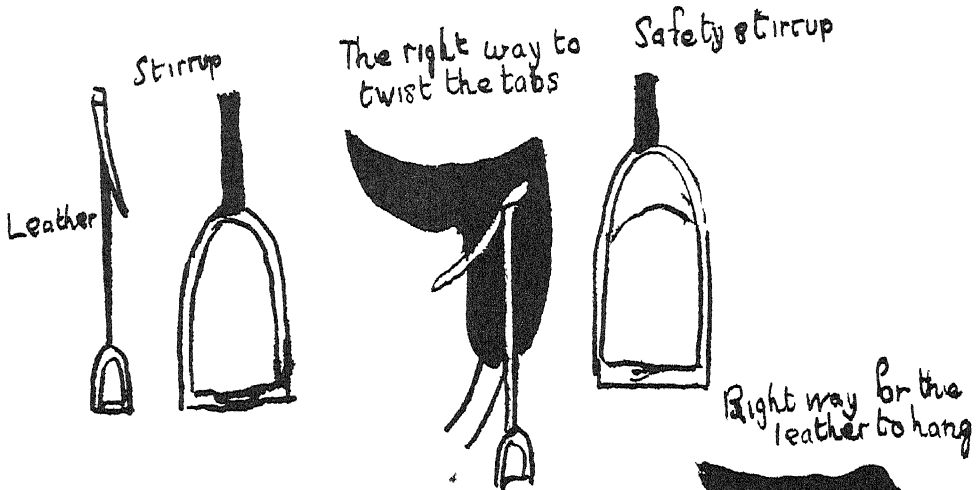
CHAPTER III

"Bridling, Saddling, Mounting etc

— ~ — — — — —



16



Iron Sarah Brunsby

If you are one of those lucky beginners who have your own pony you must know how to do the following:

To "SADDLE" him stand on the near side, if he is a bit feisty it is better to tie him up or get someone to hold his head.

Pick the saddle up and place it gently on his back then shift it gently into the right position which should be, not too far forward and not too far back. Now hold the saddle at the near girth with your left hand to steady it, then, with the right hand stretch under, and catch hold of, the other girth, draw it up to your side and slip it through the buckle, tightening them till you can just slip two fingers through. But, mind you tighten your girths before mounting! The next thing to do is to—

"BRIDLE" your pony, but you must be very very gentle or he will tell you what you did the next time!... take the bridle and undo the nose, and cheek bands. When you are ready, slip off the halter, place your right arm round his neck to rest on his nose, with your left arm held near the cheek of the bit insert your thumb just where his lips end, he will open his mouth and you can slip the bit in, while the right hand holds the head

piece by the cheek bits, when you have inserted the bit, put the reins and head band behind his ears, do up the nose band and cheek straps. You ought to be able to push your fist through the cheek strap.

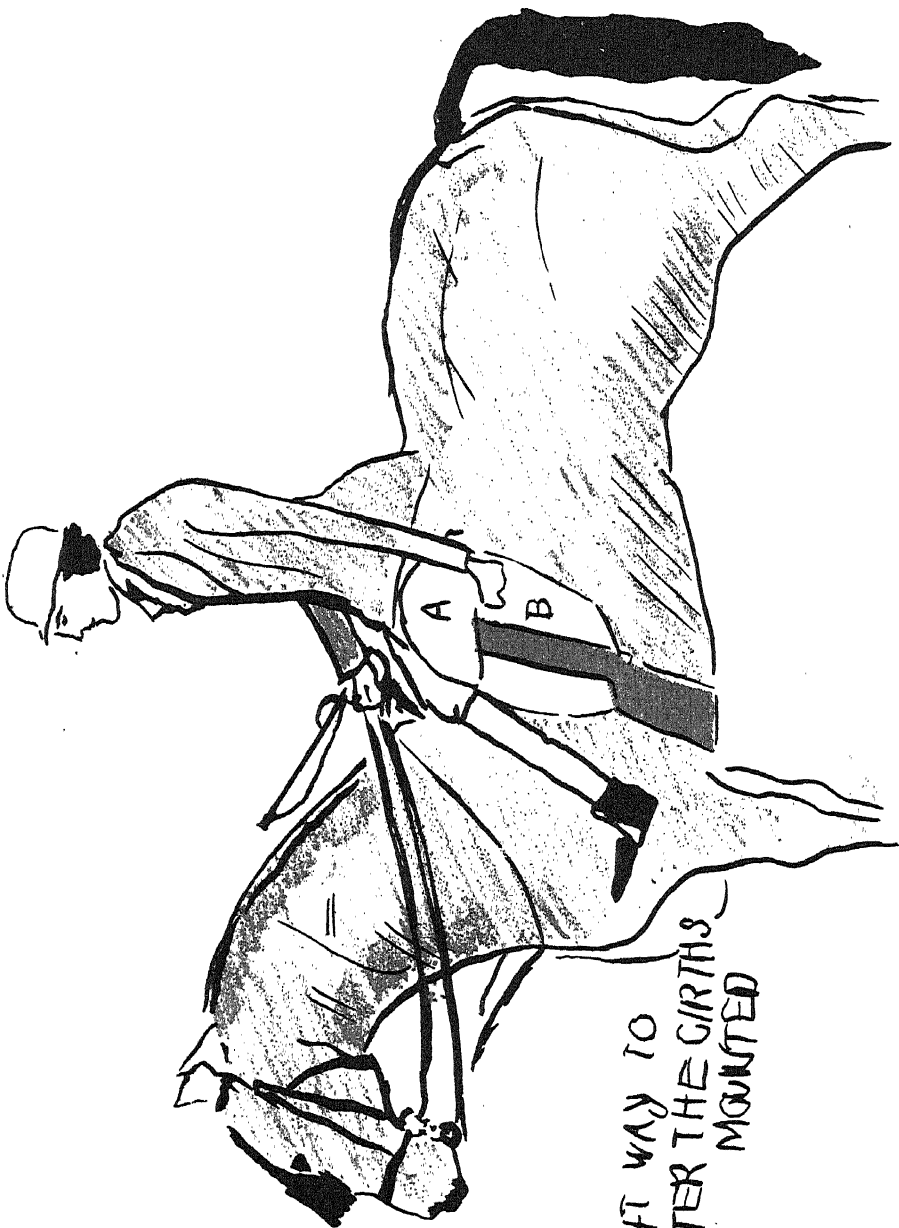
"STIRRUPS." slide the clip along the bar and adjust to right length. When you know how to do all these things we will go on to —

"MOUNTING..." Pick up the reins with your left hand and face his tail taking hold of the stirrup leather low down with your right.

Place your left foot well in the stirrup and take hold of the saddle near the back. — give a spring from the right toe pressing well upon the stirrup. — Lift your bent leg carefully over the back of the saddle. — and drop gently beside the other leather, and insert foot in the iron. — "DISMOUNT" take both feet out of stirrups still holding reins, swing the right leg over back of saddle and slide to the ground.

Now, perhaps if you can only just reach to get on your pony you will not want to get off again if you have forgotten to tighten your girths, so it is very useful to know how to alter them "mounted" as seen on page 20

Hold your reins and stick with your "right" hand, and put your left leg as far forward as possible, with your left hand pull up the "flap," and rest against arm, then catch hold of one of the girth tabs and pull up to the hole wanted. Then you must know how to alter your "stirrups" mounted. put your leg as far back as you can, holding your reins with the hand the other side of the stirrup you are altering, as on opposite page. Take hold of the "tab" with the other hand and alter to right hole, keeping your foot in the stirrup all the time even when altering your girths



THE RIGHT WAY TO
ALTER THE GIRTHS—
MOUNTED

A Flap
B Tab

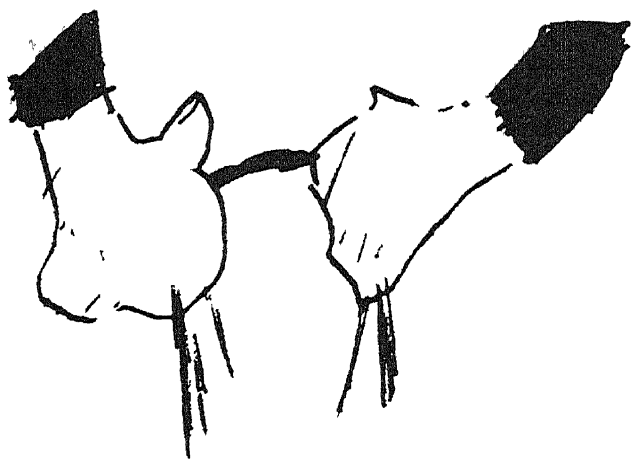
Sarah Baucus Ryan

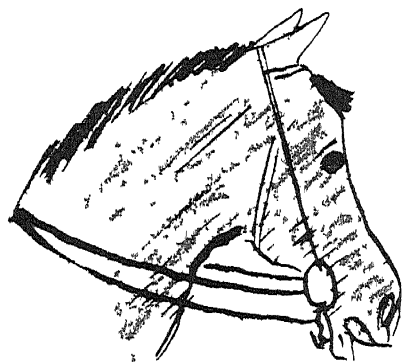
THE RIGHT WAY TO ADJUST
THE STIRRUPS MOUNTED.
Always keep foot in iron
A. "tab"
B. Catch Flap"



CHAPTER IV

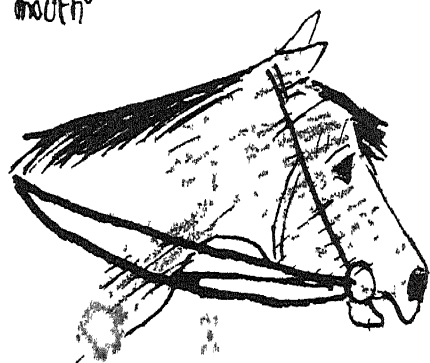
"HANDS"





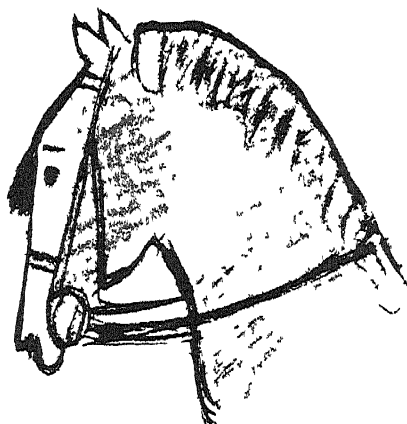
BAD HANDS.

This pony had a rider with bad hands you can see his is not happy by his expression and open mouth



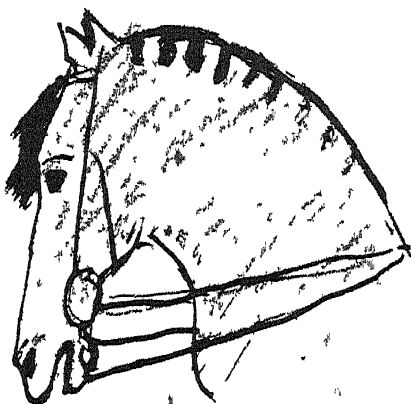
THE UNBALANCED PONY

Low head and unhappy expression of the unbalanced pony he has to lean on the bit for safety



GOOD HANDS

Note This pony's mouth is closed He is comfortable. He is going up to his bridle but is not fighting against it



THE BALANCED PONY

Head held high with a proud look, but although balanced he is still not so comfortable as the pony with a good rider.

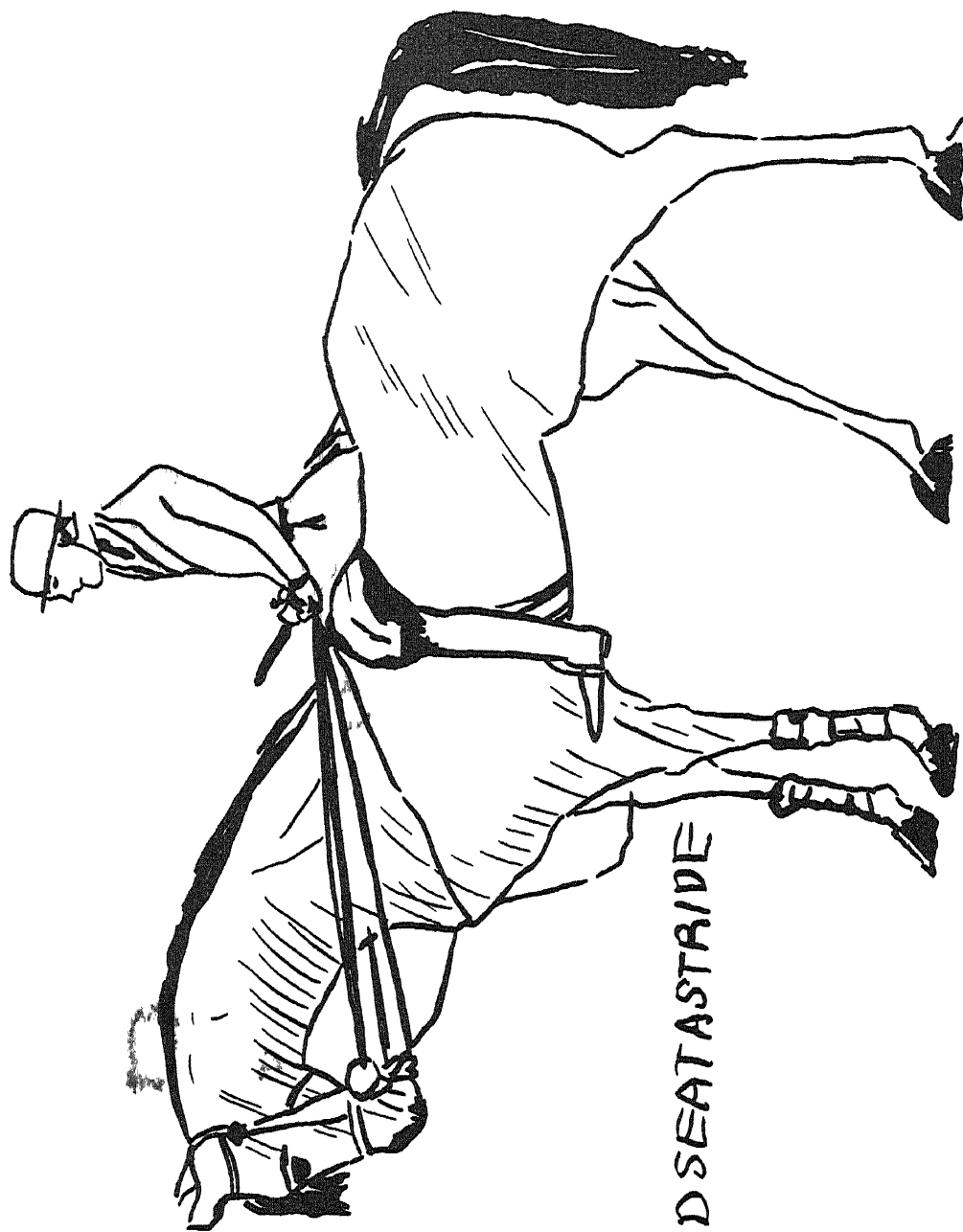
HANDS

25

You have often heard about people with good hands, so you won't want them to say you have bad ones.

Good hands are naturally gifted, but there is no need to say that one shouldn't have light hands, which with time and practice can grow into good hands. What I mean by light hands is, that you are not always "pulling" and "nagging" at your pony's mouth, but can manage him without always "holding on".

Lots of people have gone out riding on perfectly quiet horses and the same old story is told again "That horse of yours pulls like the dickens, I simply can't hold him" perhaps if you said to those persons "Have you tried not always "pulling" at his mouth"?



AGOODSEATASTRIDE

the answer is "No," well, then, if you tell them to drop their reins and not always "nog," they will have no more trouble! To have good hands is one of the greatest things in horsemanship, and one to be proud of; the "horse and rider are as one," On the next page you will see how to hold your reins, you must imagine them something very delicate that would break at once if you jerked them, and the same with your pony's mouth, the lighter the touch the more quickly and willing he will obey, and until all riders get this firmly into their minds they will have great difficulty in managing their horses and never have good hands. Yet on the other hand you must not have your reins so slack that your pony

Fig1. Right way to hold the reins



Fig2. Curb reins

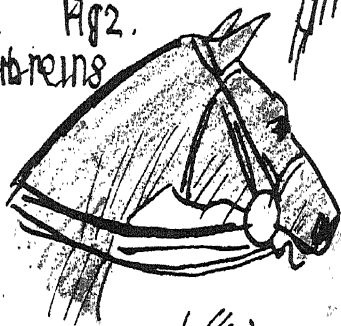


Fig4 Snaffle reins

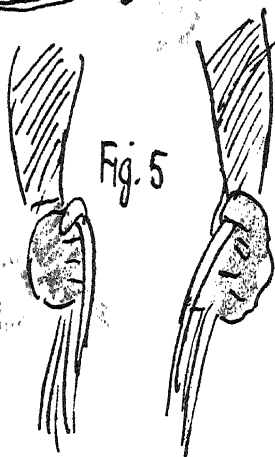
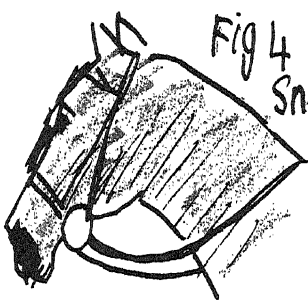


Fig5. Wrong way to hold curb reins

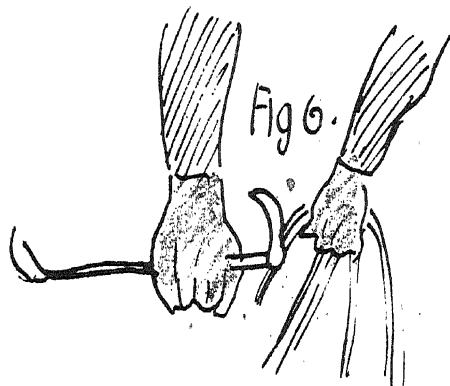


Fig6. Wrong way to hold reins and crop

Snaffle reins - crop

goes just where he wants.

You must just be able to feel that his mouth is there, and a firm but gentle touch.

If you look on page 24 you will see what a horse looks like with a good and bad rider. To "balance" your pony, say, at the trot, take a firm touch on the reins, (don't ever let him go along with slack reins so that his head is drooped down as in the 3rd fig. page 15, as he is "unbalanced," one often sees cart horses like this, and it is dangerous as well, he might easily slip.) Then as the legs hit an even steady pace is reached, still holding his head well up. If your pony is well "balanced" he will be ~~much~~ more likely to win at shows than one who is not.

The way you hold your hands, to a, is always noted and it helps greatly with your seat, especially beginners, as, when they canter if they keep their hands low, their bodies do not rise so. When you have taken hold of the reins, bend your wrists inwards so that your thumbs are straight across your body, and let them just touch. Then drop hands down, till just not touching the front of the saddle, and draw back till the tips of your thumbs are just touching your body. This is the correct position for the walk, for the trot, shorten reins till hands are just above the front of the saddle. For the canter, draw back hands just about an inch from front of saddle. For the gallop, shorten reins till hands rest just in front of the saddle, or, where his mane ends

Fig 1.



Fig 2.



Fig 3

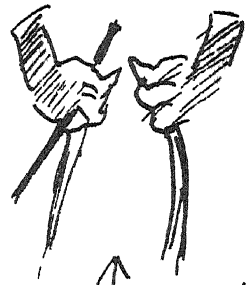


Fig 4

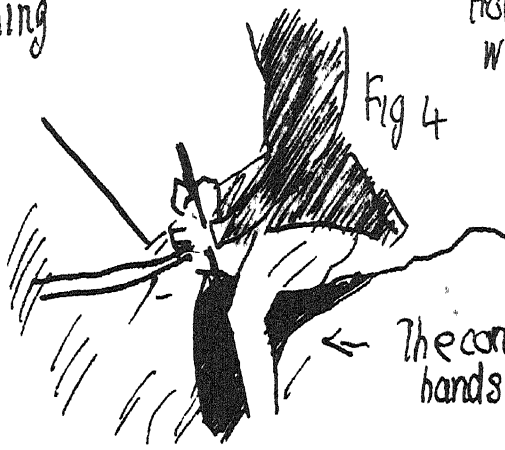


Fig 5.

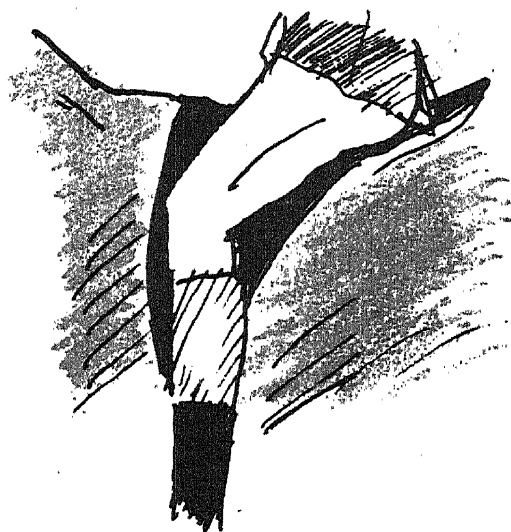


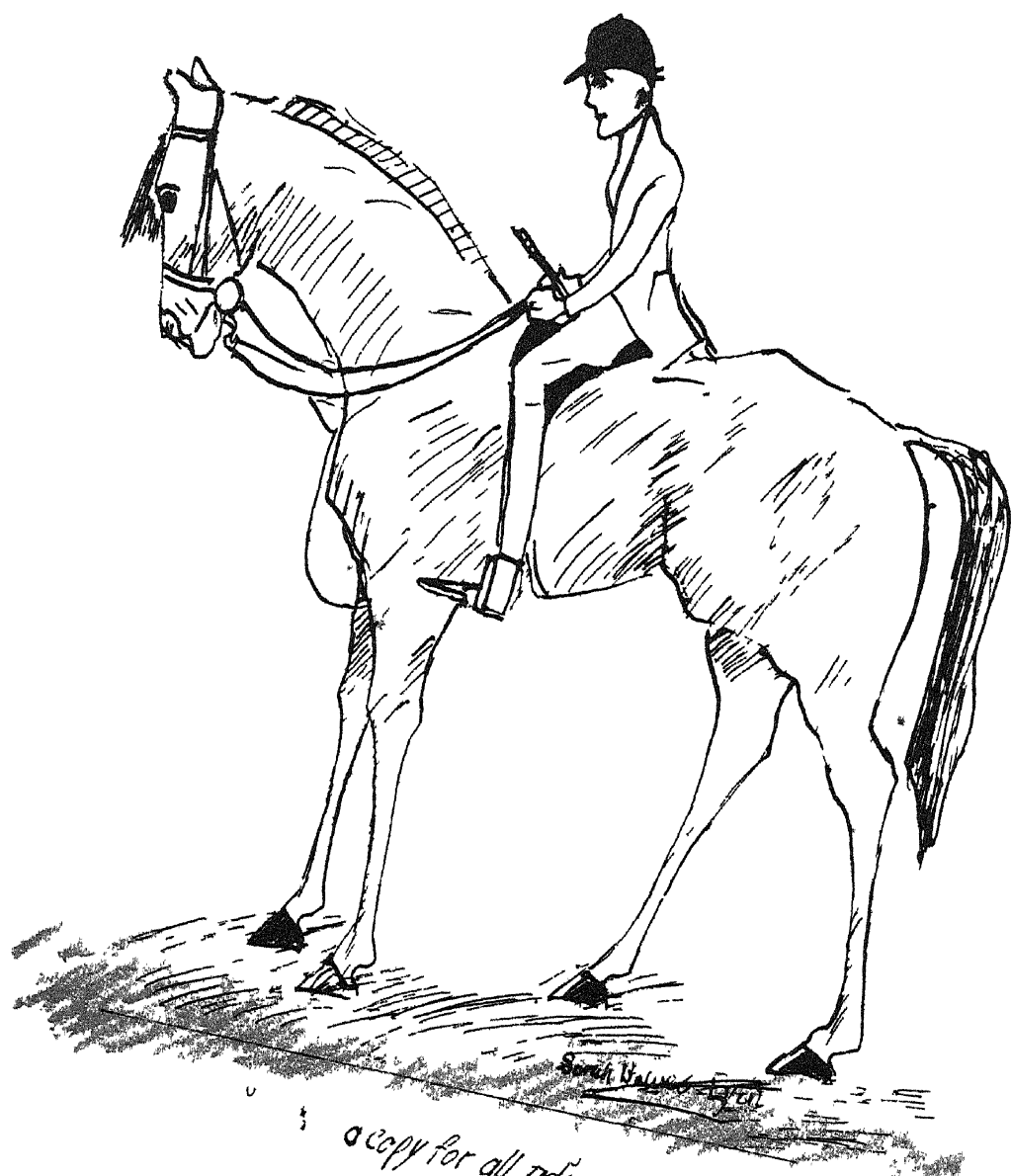
Fig 6.



The Seat

V





a copy for all riders as a "good seat."

The Seat

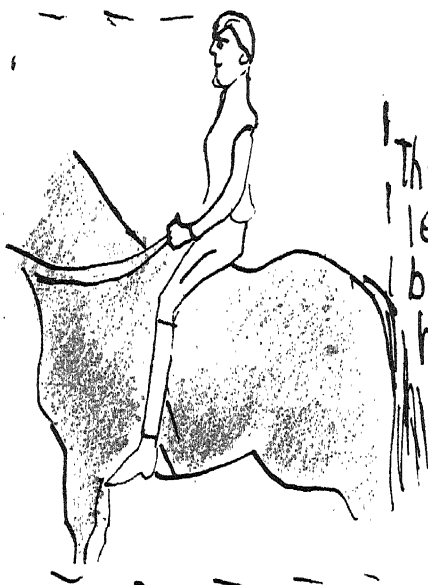
When you have bridled and saddled your pony you mount as shown in Chapter III, now let your legs hang naturally, and you will get the position as in Fig 1. on the next page, then if you draw your leg, back, and lean slightly more forward you will get the "Natural" seat "modified" seen in Fig 2. and that is the position we get all the different seats from. Now,

when you have tried all these positions without stirrups you will now have to know how to get the right length for them.

'Stirrups' A good way is to ride a bit till you get well down in the saddle and then feel the irons knocking against your ankles, another is, to keep your feet in the stirrups and when you stand up, your

Natural seat.

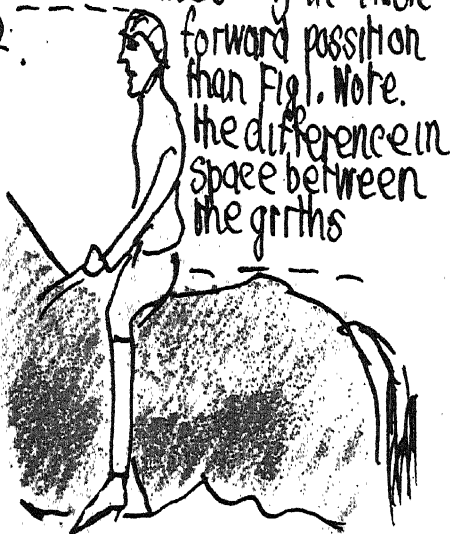
Fig 1.



The "Natural" seat, the legs are forward, and the body thrown back so that he can balance. Note the girth line.

The "Natural" seat modified. The legs are drawn back which results in the knee being raised and the body in a more forward position than Fig 1. Note the difference in space between the girths.

Fig 2.



The "Modified" seat with saddle and stirrups, which bends the knee still further. Note the raised toe and leg covering girth. Compare with Fig 2.

Fig 3.



Sarah White 1924

Two examples
of a very common
seat Fig 1. Bad
Fig 2. Worse.

Fig 1.

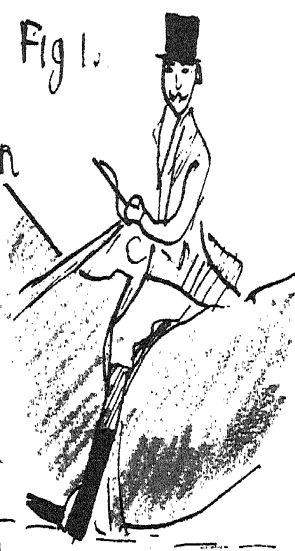


Fig 2



Wrong

Right

Fig 3.



Racing seat



Fig 4

Old fashioned
seat, straight
leg



Fig 5.

Fig 6.

Leg too
far forward
Too long



Fig 7.

RIGHT

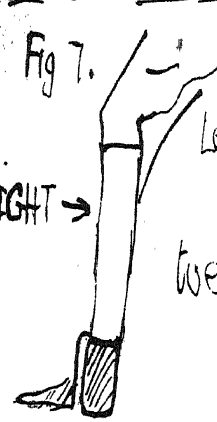


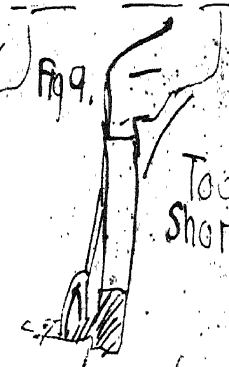
Fig 8

Leg too
far back
too down.



Fig 9.

Too
Short



Sarah Bowes Kyor

fork, just clears the ~~bow~~ of the saddle,
 But it is better to ride with
 stirrups too long than too short.

If you want a good seat you
 must sit up as strait as you can
 With your legs hanging strait
 down from the knees it is a very
 good way to get the legs in the
 right position, if you can just
 see the tips of your toes over
 your knees but you must sit up
 strait. Always keep your hands
 as low as possible and your
 heels well down. Lots of people
 take up their own seats (some
 of which are given on the next
 page) and look very ludicrous
 so I think the "tuning" seat
 is much the best for both
 children and grown ups. The
 plainer the better. It is very
 useful to learn these lines:

"Your head and your heart
 Keep up!
 Your hands and your heels keep
 down!
 Your knees dig into your horse's sides!
 And your elbows into your own!"

Jacky Chiffney

Different seats.

39

On the next page the "Hunting" and "Racing" seat can be seen. The difference between these is, that, the joeky has his knees level with the line of the saddle, while the other rides much longer. The "Hunting" seat is for "practical" work and is the most useful of all seats. The "old fashioned" seat seen on the opposite page is seldom used now, as one does not often see, a rider riding so long, or with the stirrup on the ball of the foot nowadays we ride with it "right up". And, his knee is almost strait, which, although good for the balance, is not nearly so comfortable. This fashion is sometimes tried on beginners to make them sit up, and balance themselves better, while the stirrup on the toe keeps the heels down.



CHAPTER VI

"Paces"



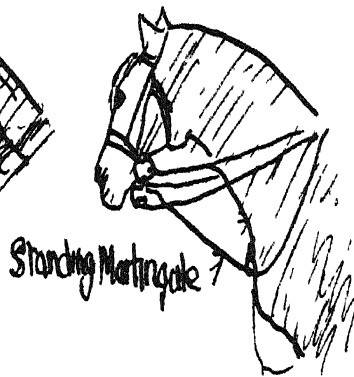
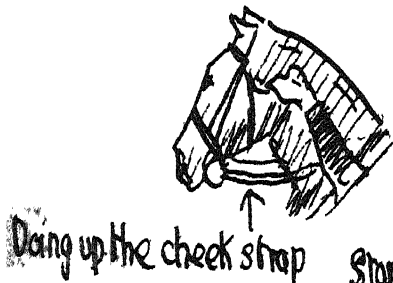
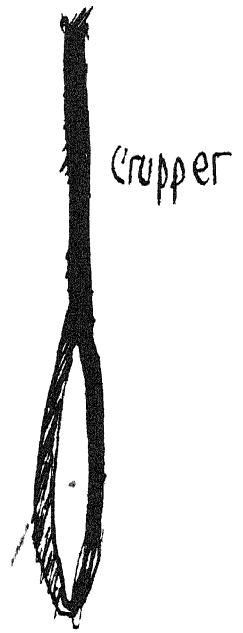
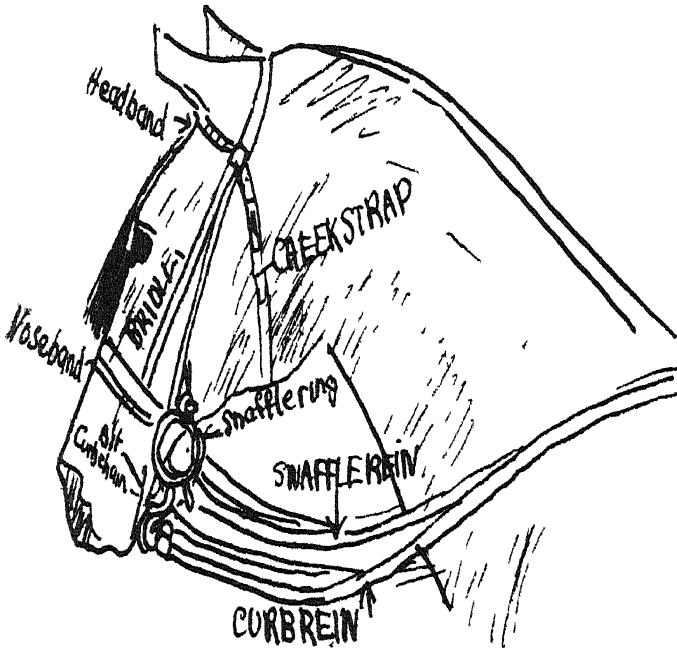
WALK. The slowest pace of the horse.

TROT. There are two kinds, the "jog", and "proper". The "jog" trot is between a quick walk and a trot, and is a very common habit and rather uncomfortable for those who are not acquainted with it. To trot "properly", shorten reins and apply the legs till a steady pace is reached.

To "Canter". Get a firm touch on the reins, apply legs and lean slightly back.

To "Gallop". Shorten reins, ease your pony's head till he stretches out, lean rather forward and keep him going steadily. If a fast gallop, catch hold of his head, lean forward, and ease up in the stirrups. To stop, draw back the hands, press well on the stirrups and lean slightly back, if he does not give in, give a good pull, then ease the reins, go on doing this till he stops.

"THE BRIDLE"



Sarah Bowles 4/20

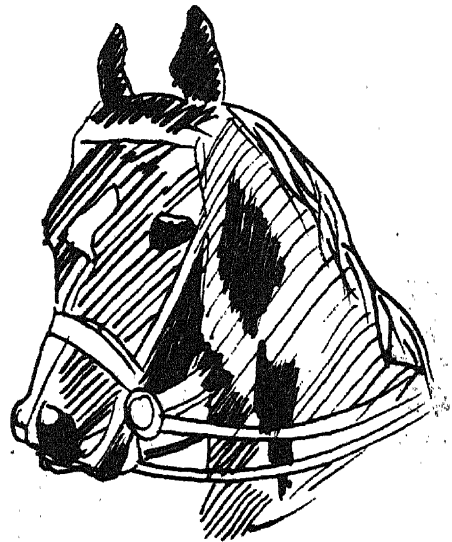
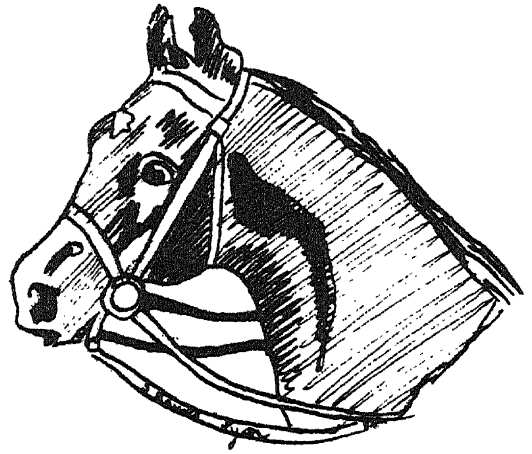
But, if your pony is hard to stop, he very likely has a bad and hard mouth, and will grow into a "puller" which a child or beginner should never have, it will wreck their confidence.

When ever your pony gives in to the pressure of the reins, always drop your hands and ease his mouth, the world known rule of "horsemanship",

"BENDING". Ride round in circles. To turn to the right rest the left rein against your pony's neck and use your left heel, leaning towards the right.

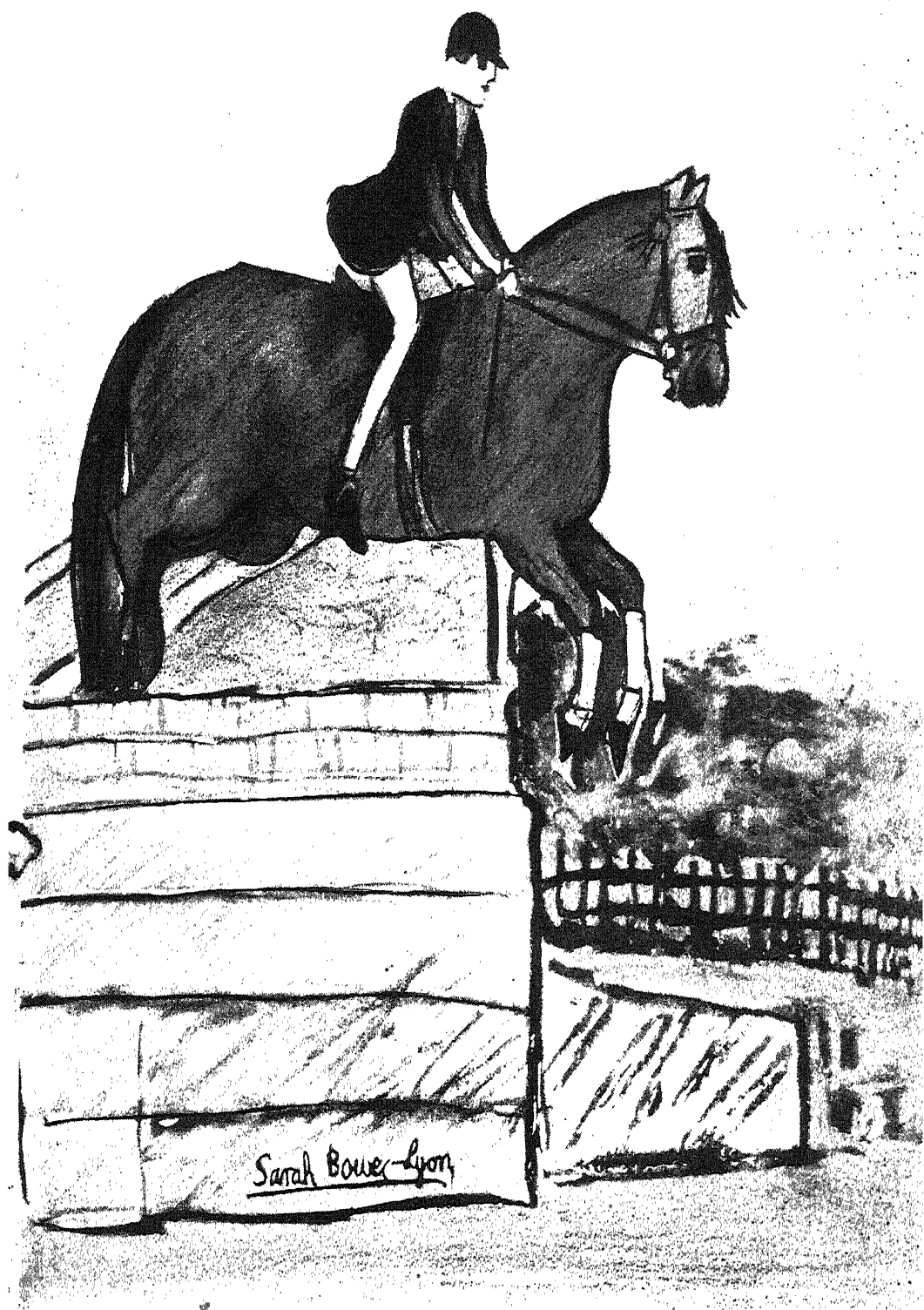
To turn to the left, rest the right rein on your pony's neck, and use the right heel, leaning towards the left. It is also very good practice to do figure eights etc. cantering, trotting, and so on.

Up the hill hurry me
Down the ^{not} hill hurry me
On the flat ^{not} let me go!



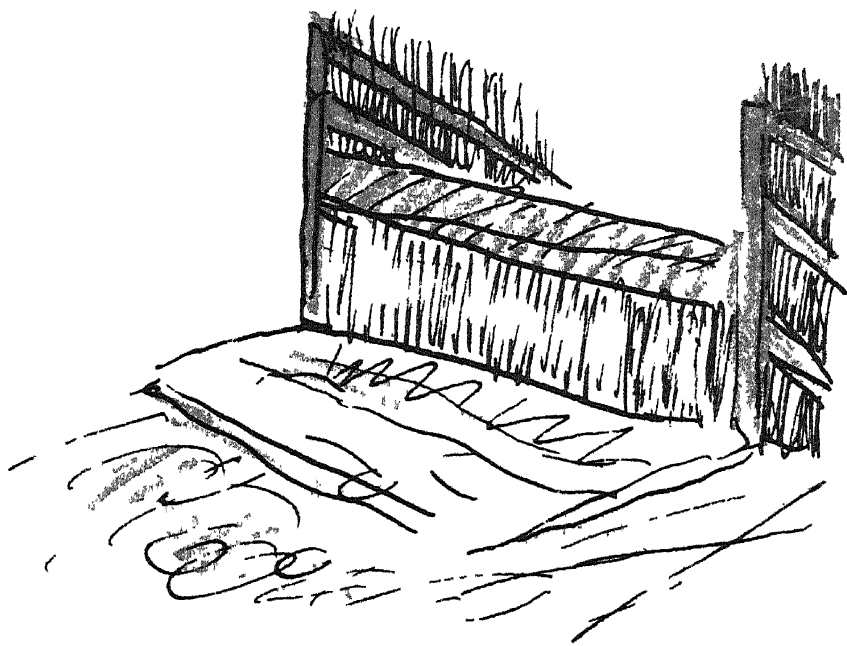
PART II

For the more experienced,
or, those beginners who have
already been through PART I



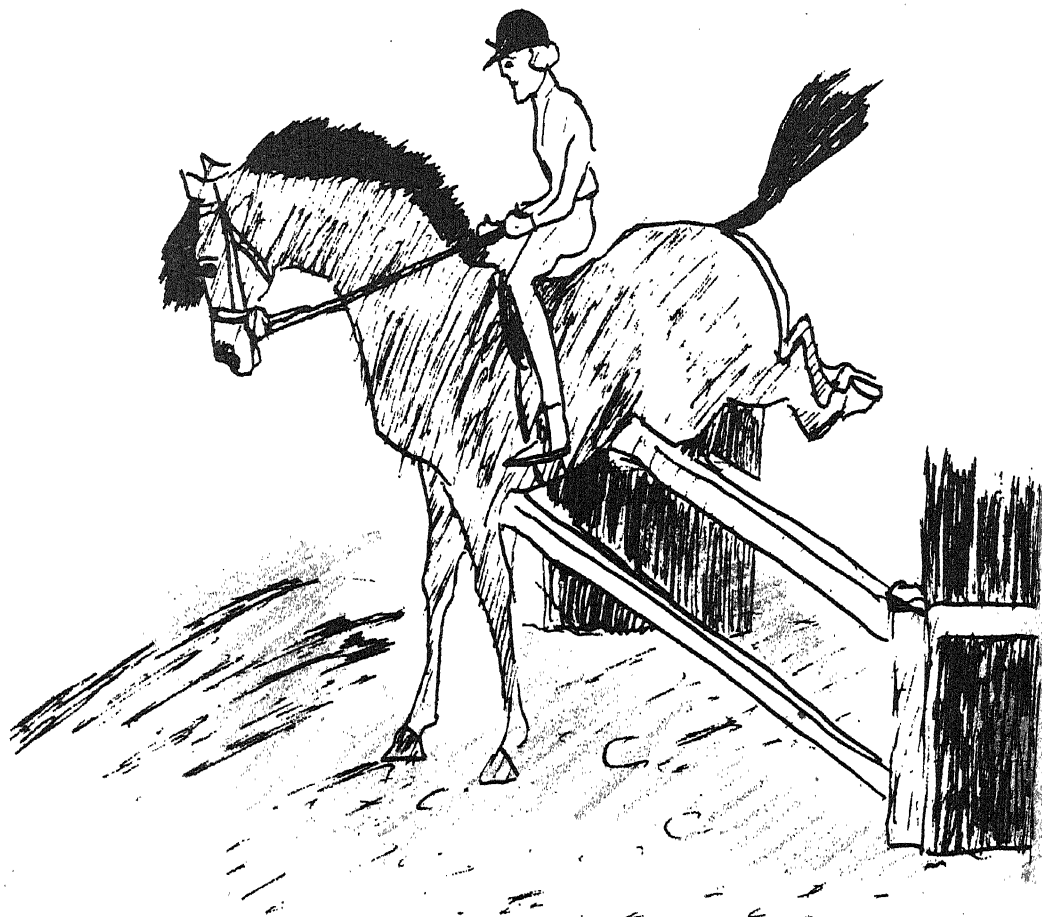
CHAPTER VII
"Jumping"

49



"The leap, the rise, from the springy
The light ^{turf!} shock landing!"

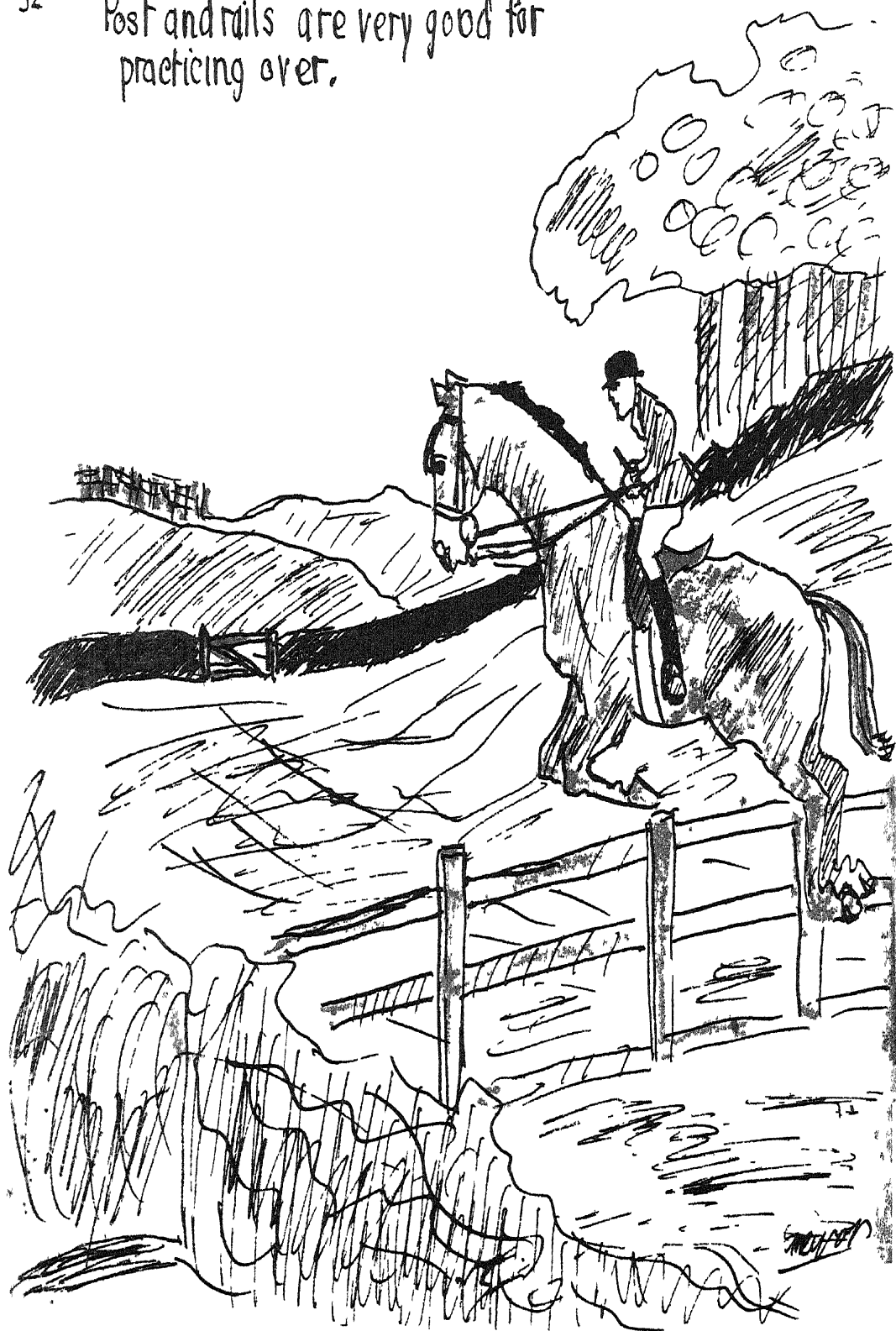
Adam Lindsay Gordon



"It is much better to start with a tiny
jump."

Jumping!, the word alone gives a
 thrill to any child that has ever
 tasted that grand feeling! even
 one who has had many years
 of experience cannot help having
 a flicker of pride in his eye as
 he recalls, those days when he came
 down bump, on a shetland pony's
 back, and saying to himself, "that's
 my first jump". and back again, to
 the row of cups on the mantelpiece,
 which, with their gleaming faces,
 tell of by gone jumping feats! ah!
 no begone reader, who has never
 tried to jump! who has never felt that thrill!
 as his horse clears! the light shock
 landing! and the fall!—for, no one is
 ashamed when they find themselves
 in the mud, instead of the saddle!
 even world known professionals
 remember back in their lives
 of at least one hearty good fall,
 and sometimes I may say, with pride!

Post and rails are very good for practicing over.



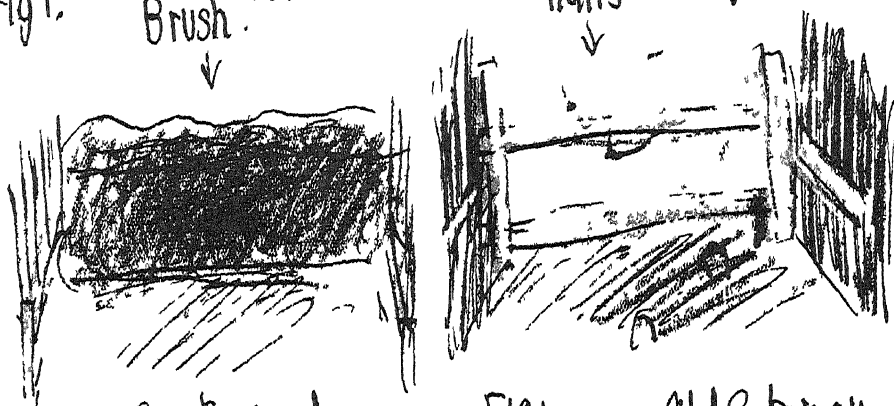
Now then you boys and girls hurry
 up and try your first jump! you
 need not be afraid as on no account
 must you go over a jump more
 than two feet, "start low, and work
 gradually up, slow but sure. You'll
 then be able to say what you think
 about jumping! At first you will
 want to lean rather too far forward,
 but, gradually, the right position
 will come by practice. You do not
 want to "hang on" to your pony's
 mouth, but just a firm enough
 hold to keep him steady, trot
 up to about a few feet from the
 jump first, then let him go,
 keep his head straight, so that he
 does not "run out," ~~then~~ hold tight!,
 and before you can say "Christopher
 Columbus" you will find yourself
 the other side, and, if all is well,
 — in the saddle!

Horses seldom like stone walls.



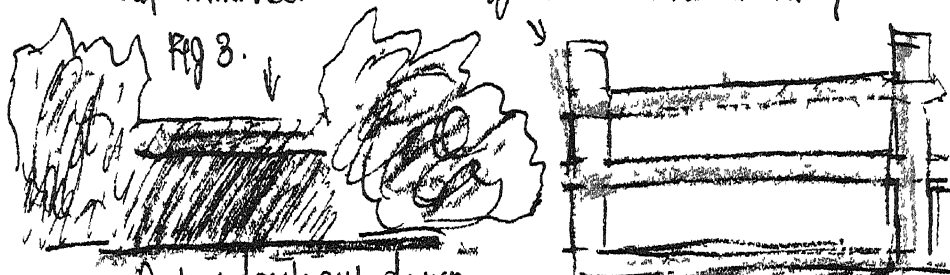
THE JUMPS^u should be placed in a fairly large dry paddock or field, and, should consist of, at first, for beginners, of rails and brush fences, the latter should have a strip of board about a foot from the top on the side you are going to jump, so that the horse can't just brush through them, and the rails should be made of hollow wood, as, if they are solid, your pony will crack his hoofs if he hits it, also they should be fixed to fly off at the least touch, so you won't come a cropper! It is great fun to have an imitation "steep ~~chase~~ ^{course}" running through two or three fields, and the jumps made, according to the height you can jump, some could be, for instance, a low gap in ~~the~~ "hedge" filled up, some bars put across an empty gateway, or, if you have a boundary fence of posts and rails to take the top rail of one of the lengths out. And as well as being the greatest fun, you will find it very good practice!

Fig 1. Brush made of Gorse. Rails Fig 2.



Gap. Trimmed.

Fig 4. Old Gateway



Post and rails cut down

COT AND LAYED

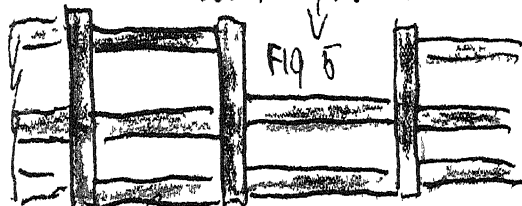


Fig 6.



BRUSH

Stone wall.

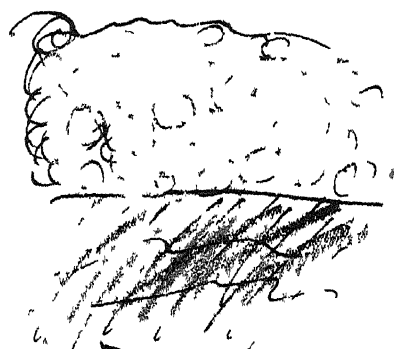
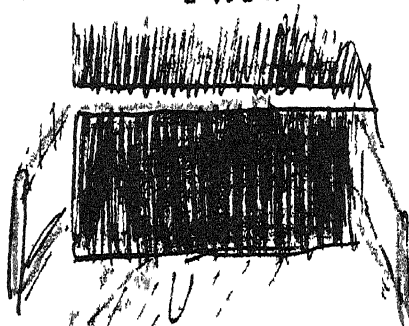


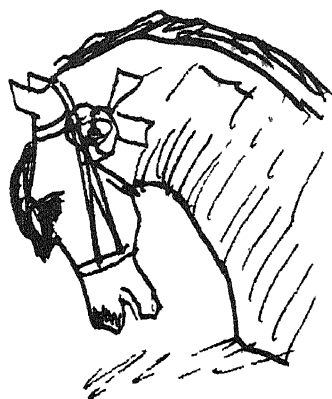
Fig 7.

Fig 8.

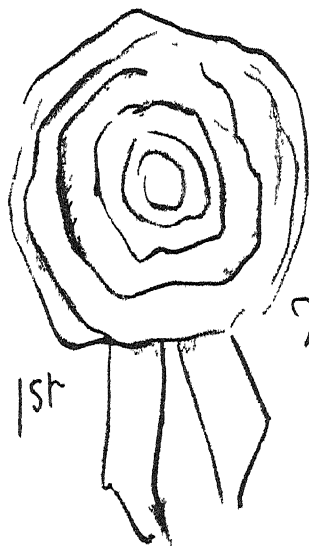
"MAKING YOUR OWN JUMPS" is really most exciting! — except when they fall down! and you're underneath! But you must make them strong enough not to! and if you have plenty of wood and stuff to make them with, it is a great occupation, specially for the holidays. Well, let's say we will start at the "Brush" fig 7. First of all, you must get plenty of the above, the picture shows you quite a good height, but you can always cut it of course to your size. Get two good solid posts, and bang in at about 6ft apart, but they must be on an even line or your jump will come crooked! Now stick each branch about an inch into the ground, do a single row first, and then get thicker. After you have done this, hammer a nail into one side, of the posts, get the bit of board, and balance it on these. If you want 'wings' of the same, stick some high bamboo canes into the ground, and twine the branches in and out of them.

Fig 1. is of gorse, and made in exactly the same way as fig. 7. only rather wider. In fig. 2. is tails, resting on the nails in the posts. Fig 3. is a rough hedge trimmed. Fig. 4. is put up in the same way as Fig. 2. Fig. 5. is the top bar of a post and rails taken away. Fig 6. is what we call "cut and layed". Fig. 7. has already been shown how to make, and Fig. 8. is like the stone walls in Northumberland. Now, we must give a few lines to the kinds of hedges in different countries. In Warwickshire you will find out hunting the hedges are very easy for "summing" over as they consist of either clipped "brush" or "cut and layed", ^{which} ~~which~~ are not much more than 3 ft. At Melton too, they are all "clipped". The Hertfordshire hedges are thick and wide, with many a "blind ditch". and the "Perey Hunt" in Northumberland, have chiefly stone walls.

CHAPTER VIII
"Showing".....

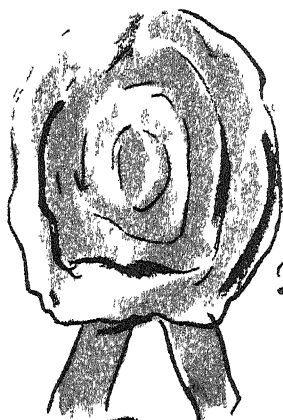


"Rosettes"

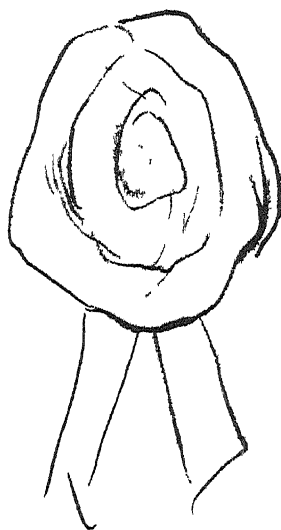


1st

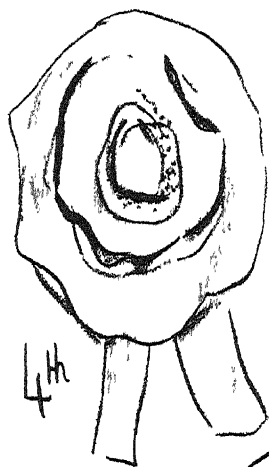
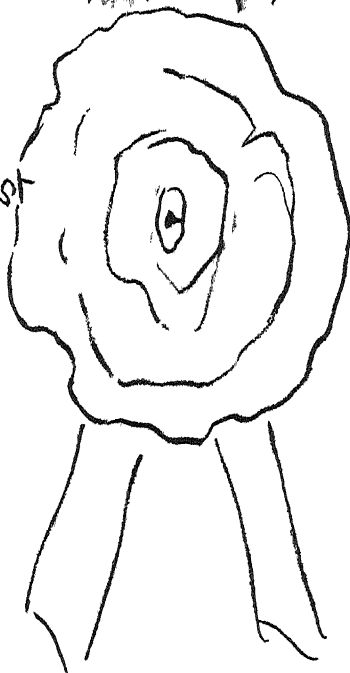
2nd



3rd



CHAMPION 1st

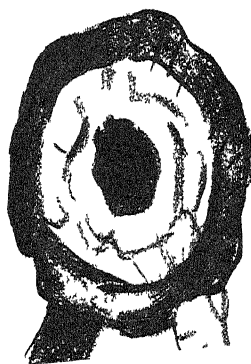
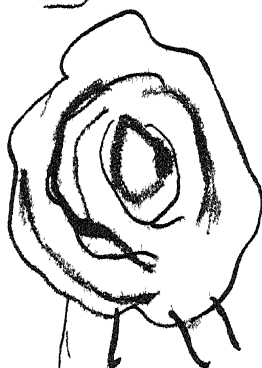


4th



5th

6th

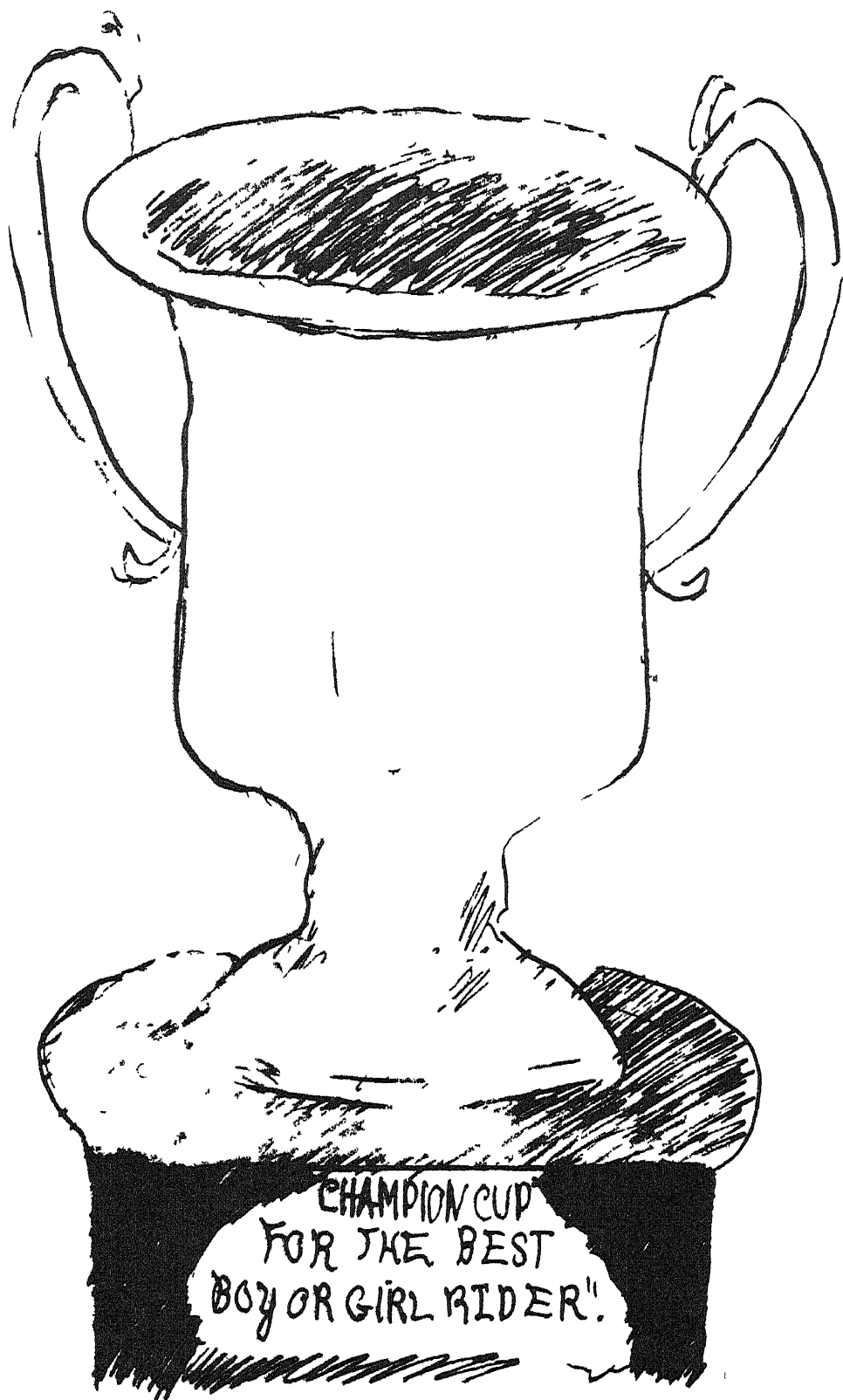


Rosette for riding

SHOWING

61

Showing is an art by itself, and needs both skillfulness, and knowledge, to be able to do it well. It is a very good thing, if you are not riding, to watch carefully those who are experienced, in the ring, and you will see how they take everything with coolness as it comes, you must never get excited or your pony will too, it is hopeless. And also, watch their manners in the ring too, for this counts above everything, and the Judges notice it. Never push, be content to be where you are, help other people out of difficulty when you can, and above all, do not gaze about you, pay attention only, to your pony and yourself. When you first enter the ring, wait till those who want to get in front, are past, you then take your place, the Judge will take just as much



notice of your pony, at the end, as in front,
 but also keep a good space between the
 next person and yourself so that the Judge
 can see your pony's movements better, and
 if those who want to hurry on in front, always
 let them pass on the left side, or the judge
 will not notice you. But you must start teaching
 your pony all about showing a good time
 beforehand. Before you enter the ring you
 must see that your pony's saddlery, and so
 on is all right and that he is looking his
 very best! It is a good thing to brush his tail
 and mane with water, as this makes them smooth
 and glossy. Then mount, stirrups not too short
 and your cane held in the right hand, and,
 do not forget your number card which should
 be tied round the back, or arm. Turn his head
 away from the crowd for a few minutes
 and walk him up and down, and, if you
 have not already done so, talk to him
 soothingly, and explain what he has got to
 do, and I assure you he will do his very
 best! Now, go back when the other
 competitors are collecting beside the ring.

Fig 1.

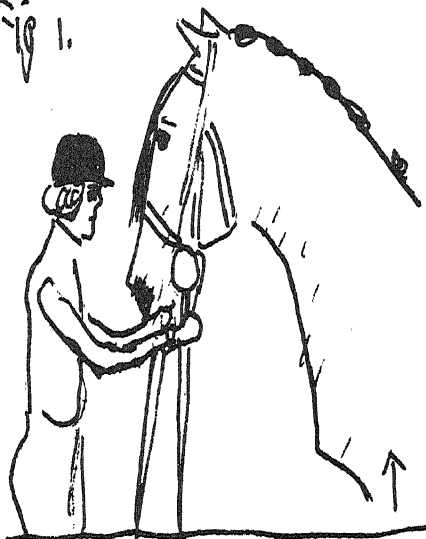
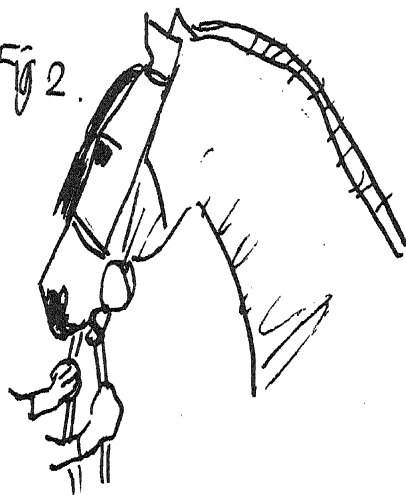


Fig 2.



How to hold your pony's head up when standing

How to mount

Fig 3. ↓

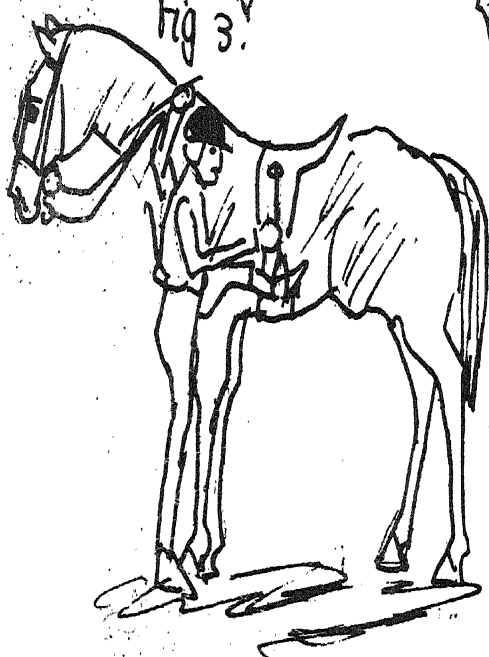


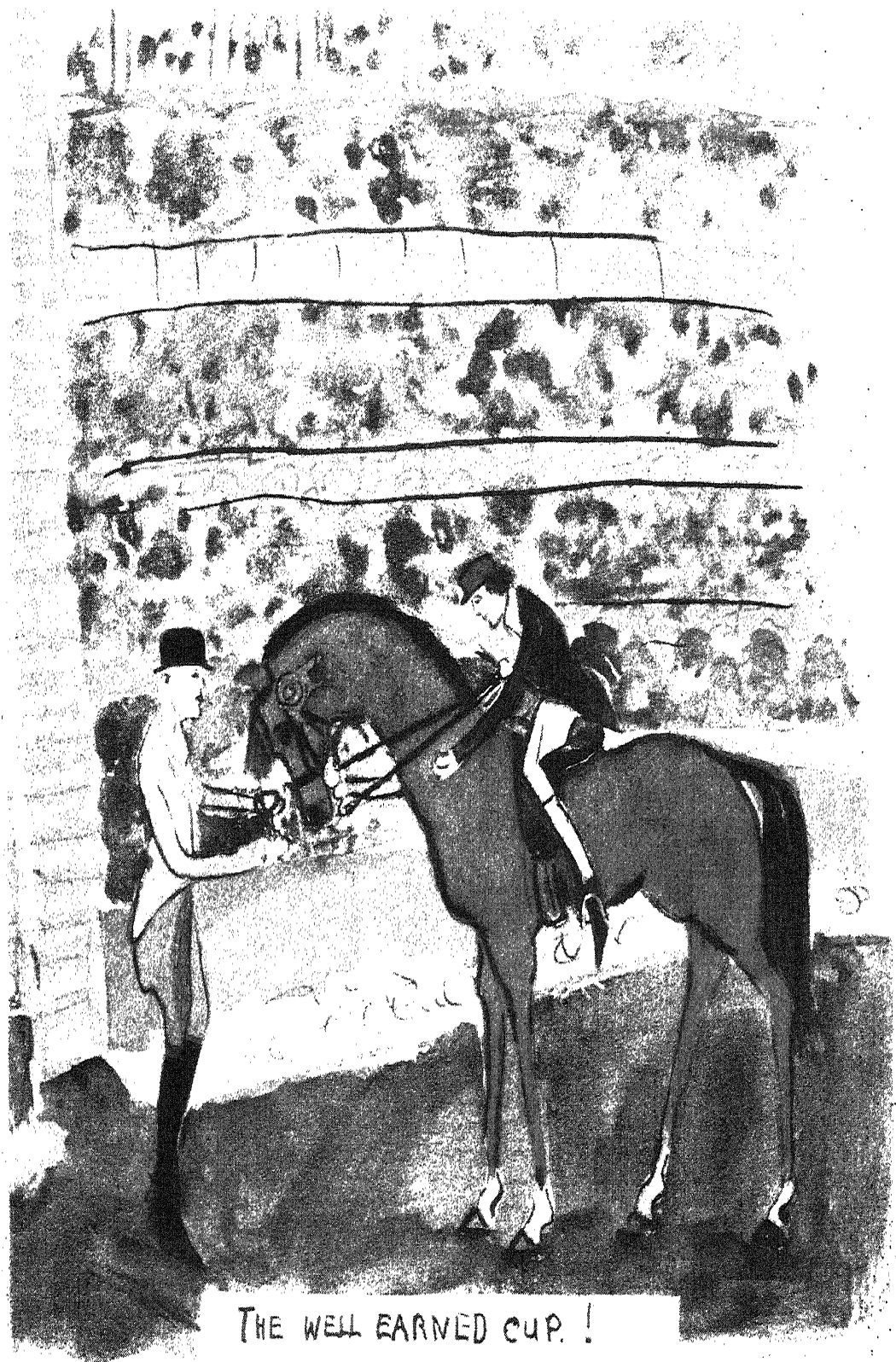
Fig 4.



How to lead your pony

and just wait quiteely till you go in, have your reins not too short, and your hands well in, and down, one usually goes bit a walk along one side of the ring, till all the competitors have filed in, so keep your pony going nicely with his head well up and just sit as still and quiet as you can, with your elbows and toes well in, then when they start to trot ease his mouth sit up, and just keep going steadily, as they start to 'canter' keep your hands well down sit quite still and keep his legs under him. You will then probaly be called in if you are lucky and stand beside the line of other ponies that have been picked out, always listen hard and obey at once whatever the judge tell you. You may then have to get your saddle off, slip quickly to the ground, and take place if

gently on the ground then stand
 in front of your pony and hold
 the reins as shown in Fig 1. on page
 48. either with the reins on, or over
 his head. If the judge tells you to come
 out and show his paces, slip the
 reins over his head like Fig 4. (holding
 your stick in the left hand) and
 make him trot up and down till
 you are told to go back, always
 remember when you get to the
 end do turn to the right away from
 you or your pony will get out of step.
 If your pony is given a rosette tie
 it either to his head band or the cheek
 strap, but if you have not time place
 it between your teeth. Never gallop
 round the ring when you have had a
 ribbon always canter. If you are
 showing at Olympia, boys, take your
 hats off the second time round, and
 if you are given a ribbon, girls, you
 cannots do this, but smile sweetly at
 the Judge and hope for the best!



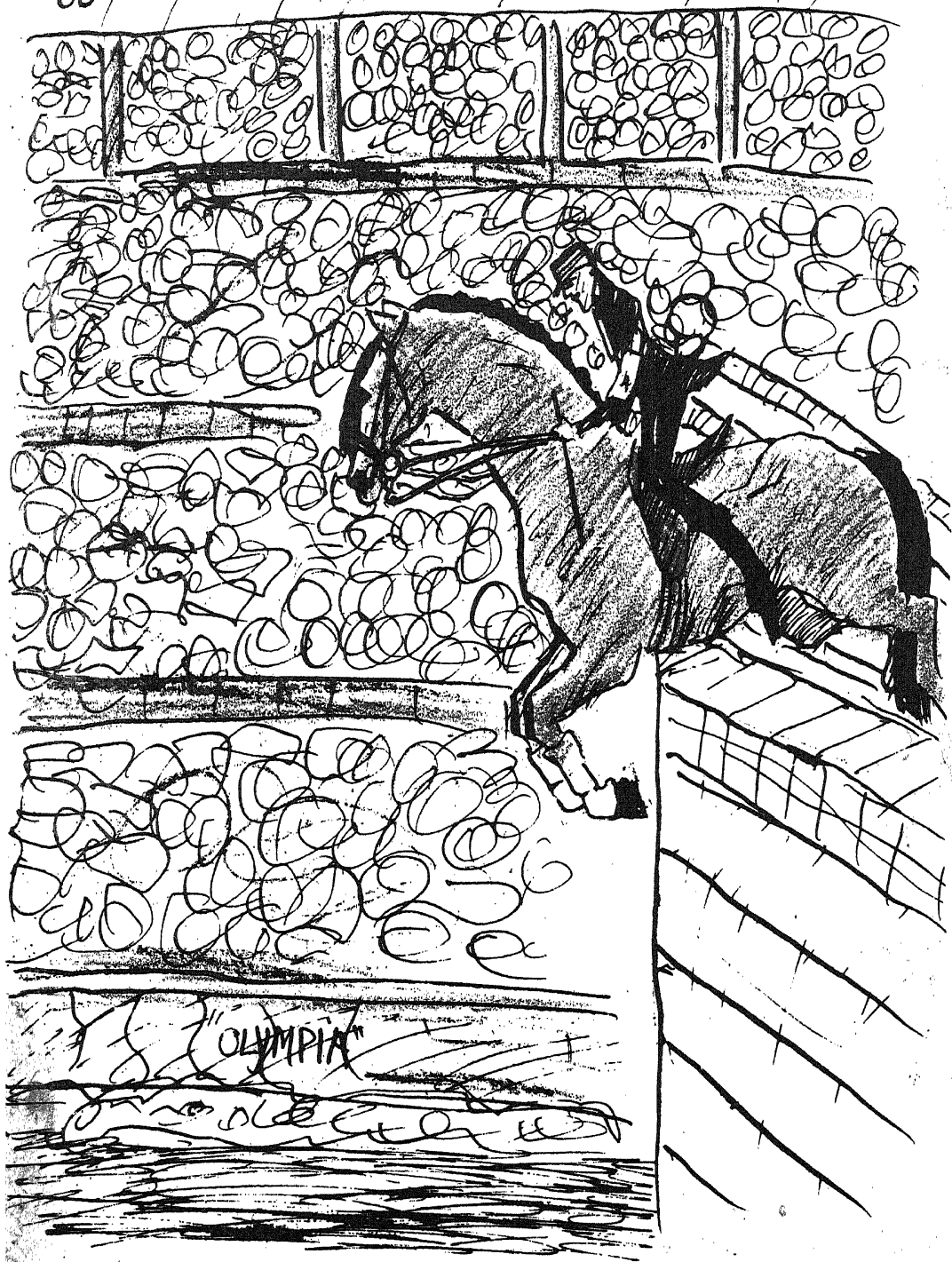
THE WELL EARNED CUP. !

CHAPTER IX.

SHOW JUMPING

67





If you, my reader, have ever seen the
army teams jump at the Horse Show,
Olympia, you will then know what a really
stiff show jump is like and how to tackle
it. Notice how they time their horses
exactly, and their bodies just move together
with their horses. To see really good high jumping
is a glorious thing, if you have ever been
to Olympia you will remember when the
big doors open for each competitor as
they enter the arena, easing up as they
go for the first jump, the tripple bar,
over with a bound, onward swiftly to
the next — over! then bending gracefully
to the right and round — a good effort
over the gate! — onward, over, round,
sweeping down to the next! — cleared,
— now for the last, steady! or —! crash!
"Ah! bad luck!" onlookers, and again
the huge doors open, to hide the good
old brown!. You must also notice how
the riders lean pretty far forward and
come down, right on their horse's heads.
This is called the "Forward seat"



72 If you go over a brush fence first, Fig 1. page 58
let him go at it at a good pace, collect
him, and make him take off near the
jump, as you will want his length over a
wide obstacle. For the "gate" and "wall" Figs. 2.3
You must steady him up a bit more,
as here you want his height, and
take off a little farther away, for timber,
you must always have your pony in
hand, and well collected. For the
(Fig 4) "triple bars" get him going at a good
pace, Also, above all, never let him
get excited at any jump or this would
prove fatal! If you are one of those girls
and boys who have got a prize for jumping
a Show or even Olympia never boast that
you have won it, on the contrary, put the
pony you rode then first, also, it is quite
true, if you hadn't your pony to help you, you
would never have won, if he did not feel
like "jumping" you couldn't clear the obstacles
and all would be lost, and if you have got
a shining cup on the mantelpiece in your
room alway say-it is ~~by~~ him that you
possess it.

Fig 1. BRUSH

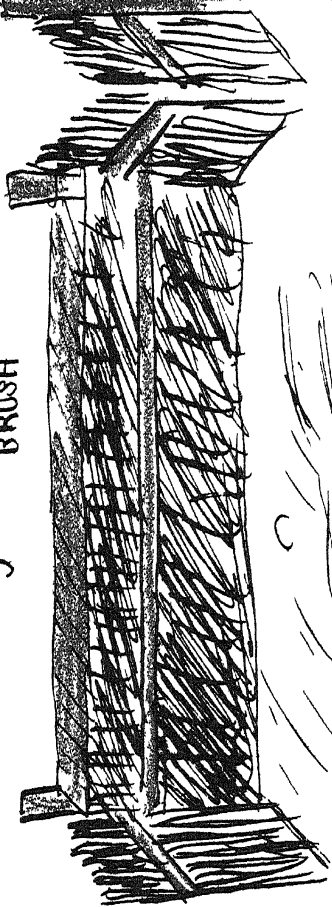


Fig 2.

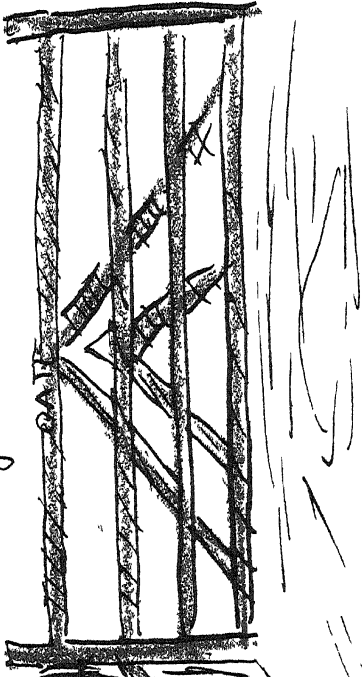


Fig 3

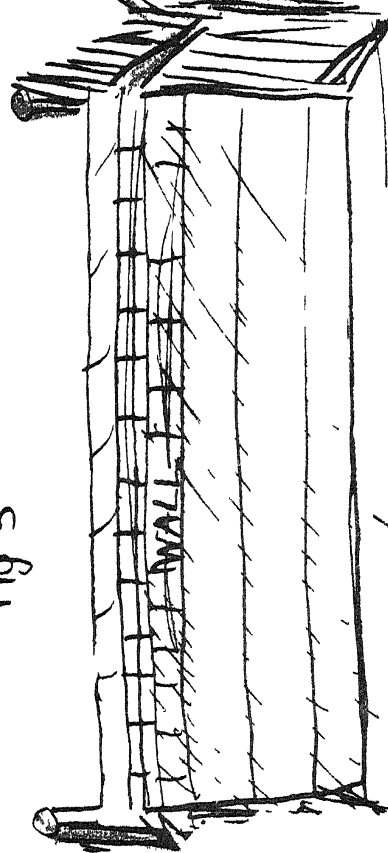
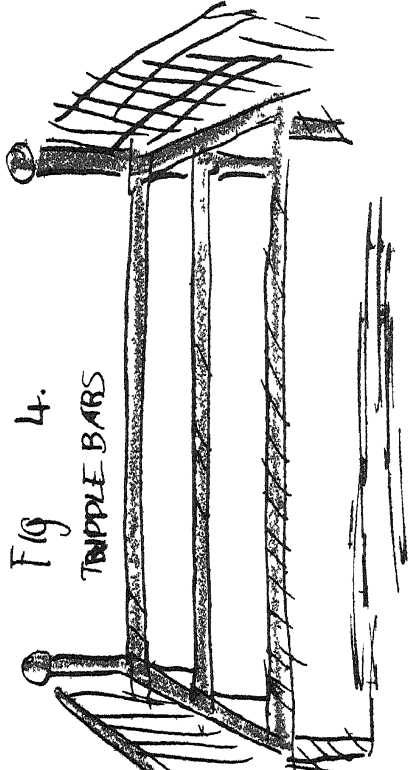


Fig 4.
TRIPPLE BARS



CHAPTER X

HUNTING

75

Perhaps you are one of those people who live in a very good hunting county,— then think yourself very lucky indeed! But, perhaps, you may live in a very bad one, — that is hard luck! though, if you are a good sportsman, you can get just as much fun, and just as good a run as you would if you were hunting with the Berour or Warwickshire etc. Now then go and fix up a good day with your father! We will start from the beginning.

Always have a very good breakfast, as you will only have your sandwiches for lunch, it is a good thing to have some ginger biscuits etc. in as well as they do not crumble so much as sandwiches, and, take a few bits of plain chocolate to eat for the hack home.

Now, have you got all the things on the next page?

You must always start early, for the meet, so that you will not be late if you are delayed on the way.

When you get there, go and find your pony, and don't forget your sandwich case! If your hostess asks you in, always go and have some coffee, it is rather not too. Always say 'Good morning'

76



Gloves



Sandwich case

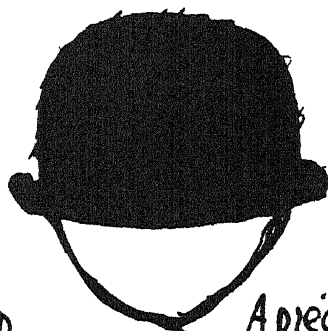
Loop for the right girth to go through



Handkerchief

Have you got the following:?

Bowler.



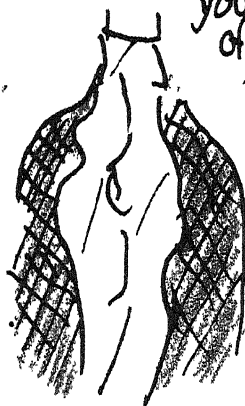
Half crown for the cap.



A piece of
your pony
of the



sugar for
at the end
day



Stock

Crop



to the Master, and then the Hunt Servants.

When they move off, don't ride too near the hounds, and beware of bigger horses, they do not always like ponies,—so,

"Ware Heels"!

Sit quietly outside cover, while the hounds draw, then, if you hear a "gone away!"

You can show what stuff you and your pony are made of, but, always remember to spare him as much as possible, you

never know when you may want his speed again next. If you have started on a good run that's likely to continue do as the motto says, and,— "ride strait for nature's true timber however strong"!

but on the other hand, if you are one of the "gate brigade" you cannot do this. Never take a jump.

unnecessarily. If you hear "hounds gentlemen please" turn your pony so that his heels are away from them. Manners count so

much in the hunting field, so be on your best behavior! If there is a gate to be opened

be the first to jump off. But, if someone is there before you, go through quickly, with a "thank-you", don't waste his time. If you have a fall, jump up quickly catch your pony, and scramble on again, and if someone has caught him for you thank him and get on at once. Never be a nuisance to others. If your pony gets tired before the end of the day turn home, you do not want to miss another hunt, and he might very likely go lame after a bit and then you might not be able to take him out for weeks, that, would be a great pity wouldn't it? Therefore always think of your pony before yourself, and ride him gently home. If it is a wet day and you can't hunt never show your disappointment, bear up and look forward to another day. Anyway, when you get home from hunting have a hot bath, go to bed, sleep tight, and may you dream of ——— "FOX HUNTING"!

STABLE MANAGEMENT

Chapter II



STABLE MANAGEMENT

81

To begin with, your stable must always be, dry, clean, warm, and fresh. Some stables smell horrible, dirty, musty, and badly drained. On no account must you let your pony be in a stable like this. Have plenty of light clean straw for a bed and it should be made, and changed frequently. But, some horses have a bad habit of eating their beds, so in this case sand dust etc. is a good thing. The stable should always be very airy, there is a special door, that the top part can be left open, as on opposite page, and there should be plenty of water at hand. It is very useful to have a few shelves high up to put all the cleaning things etc. on, but

Legging up a novice.



some stables have a harness room
 where one can keep all these things
 In the harness room one can keep the
 saddles, which should be on a horse.
 see page 16. Or on pegs round the room
 — bridles, stirrups etc, which are
 all cleaned there. The walls are
 usually covered, if a big stable, with
 the rosettes won by the horses
 belonging there. There is also a
 stove by which one dries the saddles
 etc. after they have got wet. It is
 thus rather an attractive place!
 especially when, just as you are
 entering, the smell of leather, polish
 and other odours come to your
 nostrils!



COLOURS AND KINDS

Chapter XII



COLOURS AND KINDS

87

Greys

A horse that is quite white is called a ——— "grey"
 " " " "white with black markings ——— "dapple"
 " " " "a pinky yellowy white ——— "cream"

Browns

A horse that is a dark brown, a ——— "brown"
 " " " " "bright " " ——— "bay"
 " " " "is a bright yellowy ginger brown, ——— "chestnut"
 " " " " "bright brown with white patches ——— "skewbald"

Blacks

A horse that is a pure black is called a, ——— "black"
 " " " " "black with white patches, ——— "piebald"

Roans

A horse that is a sort of pinky colour a ——— "roan"
 there are three kinds a ——— { "silver roan"
 "blue roan"

The most common kind among horses are —
 "Brown" — and the most uncommon are —

Bay
 chestnut
 black

Pure grey
 cream
 skewbald
 piebald

Roans

A pure "grey" is usually old as the "dapple" turns quite white in later years.

A chesnut is very hot spirited.

The following are nearly always placed in the show ring —

"Brown

Bay

Chesnut

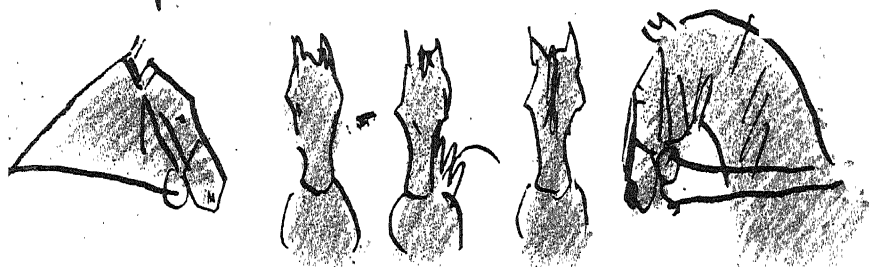
Black and somehow a "grey" hardly ever gets "first"

Roans

Skewbalds (liver and white)

Piebalds (black and white)

"Creams" are seldom seen in the show ring although some of their kind can be very beautiful ponies



The following kinds are rather a mix up.

The "Shetland pony comes from the Shetland Isles

" Exmoor " " " wild Exmoor

" Newforest " " " the sweet grassy Newforest

" Arab " " " the deserts of Arabia

There are two kinds of well known hunters

"English hunter

Irish " the latter is usually very good at tackling walls, and banks, which are the chief obstacles out there.

A polo pony is about 15 hands

A hunter is about from over 15 to 16 hands

A pony is usually about from 13 to 15 hands
or under 13 to 14 hands

EPILOGUE.

"My book is now finished, I have, in all the former pages tried to tell you about the most useful things to learn in horsemanship, it told you very briefly, but I hope you have understood, especially beginners in riding, as I have written it also for their pony's sakes too. I think the poem on the opposite page is very like a faithful old hunter who has earned her rest, but even though she had not carried the huntsman to hounds for a long time her heart still yearned towards the sound of the horn! Always be thoughtful for your pony and see that he is always just as happy as you, and, above all, try to make him love you, then he will do anything for you, it is done by kindness and good treatment.

*"Love stands through all
And wins the day!"*

S Bowes Lyon

The skies are dull, a frosty air,
The dew still lingers on the grass
Till the hounds brush them as they
pass;

With the huntsman on his mare.
At the meets the people say
'Look, here comes Will's gallant
grey
Who's going strong and well this day,
And always first to "get away"!

The hounds against the ridge
were seen
And the scent before them fresh
and Keen.

Fences and fields are flashing by,
and o'er them all the mare will
fly!

Not one was with them at the death
Huntsman and hounds alone were
left!

Amongst them stood the old grey
mare
In all their joys she had a share.

Those happy days have long since
past

And now the huntsman's horse

has gone,

No more to lead the hounds so fast.

Now all her faithful work is done:

Now in a field beneath the trees

The hunter still will stand and dream,

The air is full of humming bees

And bubbling onward goes the stream

Oft she will turn and raise her
head

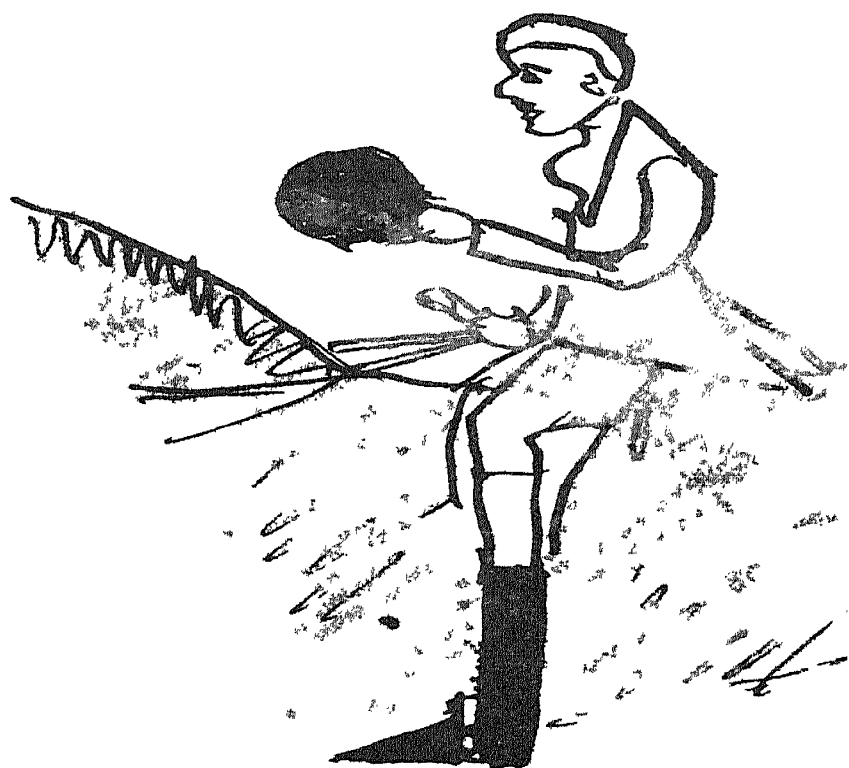
When far away she hears a sound,

And at some pulsing streak of red

The gallant heart again will bound!

And yearns once more for horn
and hound!

S Bowes-Lyon



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